BAY AREA REPORTER B.A.R.

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Gay Judge to Sit on State Supreme Court . . . For A Day

by Paul Lorch

Los Angeles-based Superior Court Judge Stephen Lachs received a rare honor this week. The judge was appointed a *pro tem* Supreme Court Justice of the State of California by Chief Justice Rose Bird.

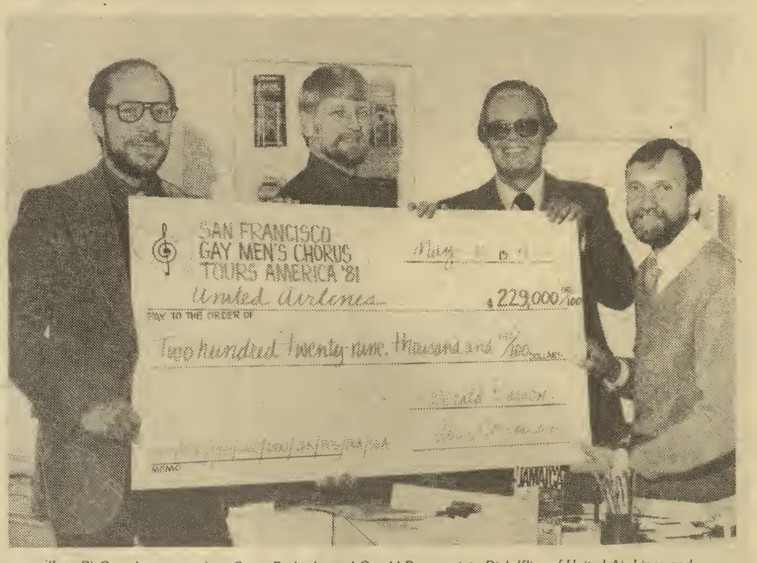
There are currently two vacancies on the state's top judicial body (in itself a highly unusual situation). One justice, Wiley Manuel died this winter, and Justice Clark recently took a State Department post in the Reagan administration. Within the past weeks Governor Brown has nominated one new choice, but the appointment has yet to be confirmed. The State Supreme Court is based in Sacramento but periodically travels to other locales (San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego) and resolves cases. On June 1, 2, and 3 the court will convene in Los Angeles, and Lachs along with a second *pro tem* judge will join the court on June 1 for that day. He and a second replacement will assume the full responsibilities and honors of a Supreme Court Justice.

Bay Area Reporter contacted Lachs at his Los Angeles home where he explained the details of the appointment. He said, "I was almost on the ceiling when I received the call from Chief Justice Bird." Lachs explained that there are over 1000 Superior Court judges — the vast majority of whom have never served as a substitute on the State Supreme Court. He said even at that the choices are made usually from the higher appellate court justices.

He said, "It's a tremendous honor; at first I felt a little queasy . . ."

What will happen in Los Angeles is yet to be placed on the court's calendar. If the sessions are at all typical, it

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(L to R) Gay chorus members Steve Prokasky and Gerald Pearson join Dick Klise of United Air Lines and Chuck Pederson of Passport to Leisure in ticket buying ceremony for the Chorus' national tour.

Gay Chorus Makes Final Plans

by Allen White

Last Friday the airline tickets were paid for. With the presentation of the check for $229,000 the chorus is ready to fly.

Fundraising is still of crucial importance to meet the budget. David-Stephens Associates, Interior Design Studios at 621-5115 is giving 10% of their sales to the chorus tour fund. Facial Fitness skin care products is donating $1.00 to the tour fund for each product sold at Star Pharmacy, 18th and Castro.

In our last reprot we stated there would be 50 pounds of turkey for the chorus donated by a Kansas farmer in Lincoln, Nebraska. Turns out it's 50 turkeys. And that's a lot of meat!

(Continued on Page 4)

SFPD Brutality Aired

Toklas Club Envisions Review Board to Curb Rising Police Aggressiveness Against Gays

by John F. Karr

The Political Action Committee of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club convened last Thursday (the 14th) to hear testimony from victims of police brutality and discuss possible courses of action. The stories told indicated (1) a rising tide of unwarranted and unchecked police brutality toward Gays; and (2) the possible recourse of citizens — slow, bureaucratic, and always painfully after-the-fact.

The testimony of the victims, being taped for presentation to the Mayor, was fraught with overlapping incidents of police action against Gays in the Haight-Ashbury. A campaign begun over a year ago by Haight Street merchants to clear their stoops of loitering "street people" has escalated to the point where "it's now against everybody," as a beating victim complains. The campaign has given police the opening to harass anybody on the street. Said one victim, "They don't like hippies, and they don't like faggots. They particularly don't like hippie-faggots."

The greatest concentration of police harassment has been focused on the Question Mark Saloon at 1437 Haight, near Masonic, where clientele have been hassled for the past eight months. October 10th of last year was cited as the worst incident, and several people present at the meeting told of their experience that night.

At closing time a small group was gathered in front of the bar, involved in the usual closing time pick-up and dispersal. A squad car drove up, and the officers inside said they'd received complaints. The crowd had to "move on." Although police reports pegged the crowd at 20 people, a victim claimed there weren't 20 people on the whole block, and that there weren't more than 9 or 10 people in front of the Question Mark. The police got out of their car and randomly started abusing people. "T" was dragged from the group by a cop wearing a Dan White Defense Fund T-shirt. When his friend "D" inquired why "T" was being singled out, he was told to stop or he'd also be arrested, which subsequently occurred. But not before he and a friend were chased around the corner onto Masonic Street by plainclothesmen from another car. "D" was knocked down, dragged across the street to a

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The 1981 Closet Ball Queen (L) Neal of Urban Country Florist, and "creator" (R) "Nina." (Photo by Rink)

. . . more Closet Ball photos on Page 30

SFPD Brutality Aired

(Continued from Page 1)

police car and thrown in the back seat. A witness said, "The back door was closed rather deliberately on his leg."

The police searched Masonic Street porches with spotlights, and took several people this way. Five men and two women were arrested. The women were beaten outside of Park Station, prior to their booking, and were never informed of their charges. "E" says he was beaten by Officer Tick behind Park Station. "E" had earlier ripped his friend "D's" shirt trying to get him to leave the street. "It was obvious the cops were being ugly," he explains.

"W," picked up on Haight Street, was thrown in a police car so forcibly that he was knocked unconscious when his head hit the door frame. He did not regain consciousness for three hours, received no medical attention, and although there is a police report of his booking, was unconscious throughout the process. He was arrested because "the crowd was not moving fast enough," he said.

The woman he was with asked why he was being arrested. An officer grabbed her hair, pulled her to the ground where he beat and Maced her before throwing her in the car. "I felt I was fighting for my life and I couldn't understand why," she said. "He kicked and clubbed me. I couldn't walk for a long time, and my leg still hurts."

"RF" left the bar with his female friend, "S," and stopped at Uganda Liquors for a 6-pack. They watched the entire affair from across the street — witnessed "W" being knocked unconscious, and were moving away when an officer grabbed the grocery bag from behind them. A squad car pulled up. Officer Dickey (Badge 1628) and Officer Pera (Badge 1937) jumped out. Dickey pushed "RF" towards the car, and when he asked the reason, Dickey jabbed him in the chest and poked him in the mouth with his billy club. Under this duress, "RF" got in the car. "I was handcuffed so tight that it looked like cuts," he related. At Park Station Officer Dickey came up to the bench he was sitting on and gave him two blows to his head with a billy club. The second blow hit his eye, and the subsequent visible bruises were photographed. He was cited for public intoxication and resisting arrest, the latter charge referring to his walking up to Dickey to discern his badge number. "The officers were continually surly in attitude and treated us like degenerates," he related.



Alice Club political action chair, Sal Rosselli hosts witnesses and those interested in claims of police brutality. (Photo by Rink)

"EJ" was leaving Deluxe, a bar near the Question Mark, and both witnessed and later corroborated the victims' stories. He saw one person dragged out of a car and thrown on the sidewalk, and saw police officers use their clubs to beat people before he prudently withdrew from the area without being seen.

One man was beaten in the lobby of Park Station, and was later charged with slapping an officer, although his hands were handcuffed behind his back at the time. His glasses were destroyed or thrown away, and he could not retrieve them due to an uncooperative secretary.

This incident involved a minimum of a half dozen officers, several squad cars and a paddy wagon. It entails numerous other incidents of brutality. The victims report that the arresting officers were excited and frightened, and the police report — as well as the charges — fabricated. The locations of arrest were erroneous as the police reported them, and the charges were generally public intoxication and resisting arrest. A victim carefully explained that "the police created an incident where none was, perpetrated violence where it would not have happened." Judge Dan Stern stressed that the charges should be dropped if they could not be made to stick, as indeed they ultimately were. But this was not until a second hearing, and the victims are unanimous in declaring that the officers' intentions were achieved. Not only were they physically beaten, but they were humiliated in court and at their jobs, which they had to leave to attend their hearings.

★ ★ ★

"DL" reported an incident which occurred last March, in which a window in his apartment was broken at approximately midnight. A neighbor called the police, and they barged into his house when he unknowingly opened the door. The police pulled him down a flight of stairs to the street, where they bounced him back and forth between their nightsticks. Although the window was obviously broken from the outside, "DL" was treated as a criminal, and threatened with arrest. "They were Gestapo-like," "DL" said, "and couldn't be reasoned with. They were extremely over-stressed people, and I think dangerous." He feels he was treated in this manner due to his clothing and general appearance.

Another incident took place March 6 of this year, to "SR" and his companion. As they were leaving the Question Mark an unmarked car approached and a woman inside told them to "move on down the street." When "SR" asked why, he and his friend were spotlighted, pushed against the car, handcuffed and booked at Park Station by Officer Pera (Badge 1937) the same woman who figured so violently in the larger round-up the previous October. She said they were drunk, and they were placed in adjoining cells, where they could receive the snickering and homophobic insults of any passing officer. They were held for three hours before being released, in which time "SR" characterized the police as "mean and hostile." When he requested a copy of the report concerning his detainment, he was intimidated into leaving without the records.

The harassment of Gays in the Haight continues with some incidents going unreported due to the lack of a report when no booking is made. Victims are harassed just to the point of booking, or detained for drunkenness, and no report is made. Prior to the meeting in which the victims related these stories, a man was forcibly removed from the Question Mark and his backpack searched.

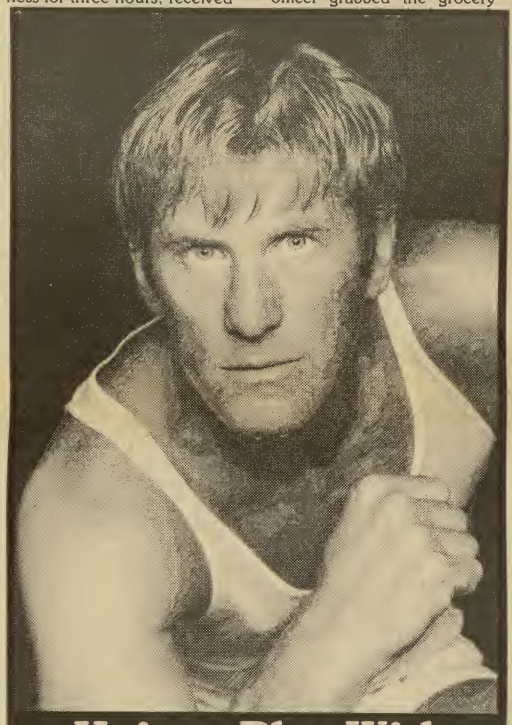
Some of the victims believe the problem to be geographical, confined to the Haight. Others cite their own arrests on Polk Street, where the charge is more likely to be hustling than the drug or alcohol related charges common in the Haight. One victim explained his theory that police were testing out "lower class" Gays to see what they could get away with, and that soon police violence would be aimed at "classier" places like Deluxe or Trinity Place.

While this idea was generally not accepted, it was clear that action needed to be taken. Meeting chairman Sal Roselli said, "Making it visible is the only protection some people have," and proposed an initiative on an upcoming ballot to form a civilian review board to control and watch police actions. There is a need for publicity, as these are not isolated incidents. The recent Headquarters raid followed a pattern similar to the Question Mark melee, and may have included some of the same officers. Officer Simpson, active in the Question Mark violence, had been rotated in office previously, due to similar actions in another district. The Headquarters caters to a similar clientele as the Question Mark, linking aggressive police action towards a certain class of Gay citizen across the city.

Members of the Toklas Club decided on immediate action. They are contacting other minority communities and setting up a netowrk through their clubs to monitor and witness police activity. An organizational meeting will be held soon to write the legislation necessary to place an initiative on the ballot to create a Public Review Board. Plans are being laid to publish accounts of brutality, in the hopes of deterring such events and helping the victims.

One victim theorized, "The police feel justified in attacking people due to the increased crime rate, but they're attacking the wrong people. The police are attacking people out of homophobic hatred and an apparent lust for violence." ■

John F. Karr



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More winners! Additional prizes will include a Sony Walkman for second place, a Casio Chronograph with alarm for third place, and a Casio jogger's watch for fourth place. For complete details and your entry form, visit the Club during regular hours (Monday through Friday from 6:30am to 10pm, and on Saturday and Sunday from 9am to 6pm).

Join up! City Athletic Club has attractive rates on several different membership plans. Details on these plans and our informative brochure are available when you come in. It's your opportunity to join a complete Nautilus health facility.

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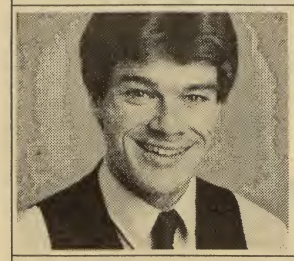
CITY ATHLETIC CLUB

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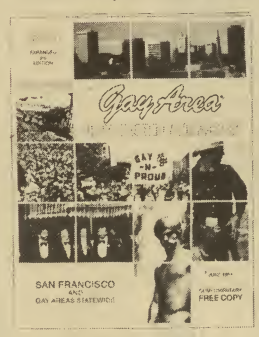
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Gay Chorus Makes Final Plans

(Continued from Page 1)

Paul Kawata has sent us a report from Seattle, Washington. They heard about the turkeys in Lincoln and they are going to somehow match the turkeys with Washington State apples. Meat in Nebraska and fruit in Washington! In Seattle the events keyed around the chorus are a spectacular show of support from the Northwest. There will be buses coming in from several cities including Portland (Oregon) and Vancouver (B.C.). There will be a post concert party with close to 2000 people expected to attend. Music for the party will be supplied, in part, by the Seattle Men's Chorus, the Portland Gay Men's Chorus, and another chorus from Vancouver. If that were not enough, there will be the Blueboy Classic that weekend in Seattle. That is a bowling tournament, and they expect 600 Gay bowlers in Seattle. Seattle may never be the same.

In San Francisco, contrary to rumor, there are still a limited number of seats for the June 4 opening concert at the Warfield Theater in all price categories. Tickets are available at all BASS outlets.

The concert programming has now been released. The musical range is diverse. It includes a Gershwin medley ("The Man I Love," "They Can't Take That Away From Me," "Embraceable You"), "We Kiss In A Shadow" from THE KING AND I, "Don't Bring Me No Bad News" from THE WIZ, to more serious compositions. These include selections by Schubert, Bruckner, Brahms, and "Behold Man" which has been used at many of their previous concerts. "I Understood" with words by Harvey Milk has also been included in the National Tour program.

The Men About Town group now sing with choreography. They will be performing "All That Jazz" and a "Fred Astaire, eat your heart out" arrangement of "Puttin' On The Ritz."

★ ★ ★

The week this issue of the *Bay Area Reporter* appears is the week of the birthday of Harvey Milk. Dick Kramer joined the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus the day of Harvey Milk's assassination. Kramer, who is the director of the chorus, has composed a letter which bears reprinting at this time:

Dear Friend:

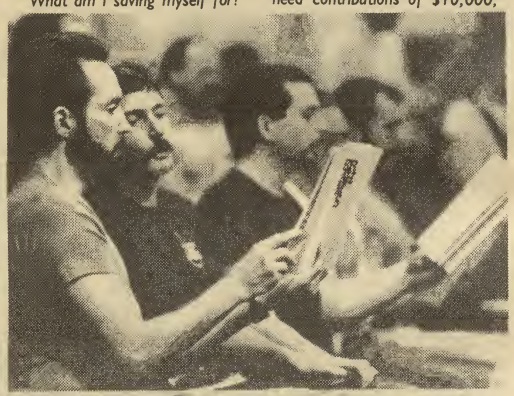
The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus is touring this country June 6 to June 20. We're not into just a joy ride for the 135 members who have arranged their life to make this trip, though we are full of joy in doing it. More, we wish to express the depths of our being to you. We want to touch you; to make connection with the inexpressible warmth that flows through all of us.

I came out to myself so long ago, but it was the day Harvey Milk was assassinated that I joined the Chorus. This senseless killing infuriated me. Asking myself, on the spot, why I was here, I resolved to be open as a Gay man. If I were to be the musical director of a Gay chorus, how important for me to feel totally willing to really be who I am.

The Chorus's difficulties in getting support have been because of "second class thinking" among Gays — like "we're not good enough," or, "our positions in life would be in jeopardy if we were to step too far out of the closet." I can only echo Harvey's words that there is so much joy in coming really out, so much acceptance, that the risks are quite worth it. And to myself I ask, "What am I saving myself for?" It's not that I'm living. By making my present more rich, the future can only be more handsome.

I ask you who are reluctant — come out. Come to our concerts, celebrate life and living as free Gay people, and as supporters of a musical group who think men loving men is so natural that the world truly needs us. The men who are running the world society need us as a psychological example. Can't we show them that spiritually we are on the right track? Men need to love men on this planet.

We need contributions toward this tour. The total budget is $335,000. More than half of this will come from ticket sales (based on 80% full houses). We will need to raise an additional $173,000. To date we have raised or have had contributed $87,000. Three members of the Chorus have offered their homes as collateral toward borrowing money to make the trip. We are determined because we feel the country needs a national Gay consciousness. Won't you help? We need contributions of $10,000, or $1,000, or $100, or $10. Or any amount. Checks made out to GGPA/SFGMC and sent to P.O. Box 14665, San Francisco, CA 94114, will do it.



Gay Men's Chorus do some final rehearsing in preparation for their nation-wide tour.

Come out, and see and hear us.

Very Sincerely,
Dick Kramer, Director
San Francisco
Gay Men's Chorus

Allen White

Milk Club Notes

"After a weekend away in community of the great commission," Harvey Milk Gay Democrats will discuss the issues raised at their weekend retreat. The club will meet Tuesday, May 26, at the Women's Building on 18th St. Socializing will begin at 7pm with the meeting at 7:30.

Also on the evening's agenda will be Kerry Woodward from Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) who will give an update on gay legislation in Washington, D.C.

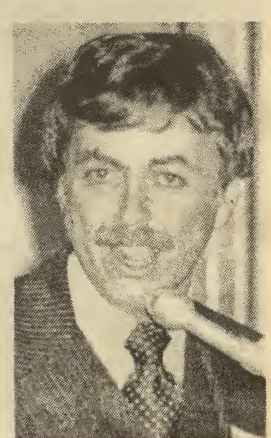
A representative from the Guardian Angels will give a presentation on their work and plans to provide their skills here in the city.

Gay Judge to Sit on State Supreme Court . . . For A Day

(Continued from Page 1)

will go like this: all seven justices will have beforehand studied all the briefs filed on a particular case. Most of the work is done beforehand; on the day it sits the court hears final oral arguments. The judges retire to their chambers and the case is decided. One justice is assigned to write the court's opinion, and occasionally one or more justices will frame a dissenting opinion. There might even be cases without oral arguments, but these formal days of convening are the public culmination of some legal issue. The top court meets in Los Angeles three or four days per month.

Lachs was the first openly Gay judge ever appointed in the nation. Since his appointment in 1979 Brown has made another Gay appointment in Southern California, and one is expected soon in San Francisco. Lachs, according to court watchers, has earned high marks in his judicial performance thus far. Assigned to the juvenile division, he has cleaned up the backlog of cases; he is considered highly knowledgeable in the law and deemed equitable. He was targeted by right-wing fundamentalists for defeat in his first trip to the polls. Nobody — what with Lachs' sterling credentials — could be found to run against him. ■



Paul Lorch

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VOL. XI NO. 11 MAY 21, 1981 NEXT ISSUE OUT: JUNE 4 NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 29

VIEWPOINT

Slants

Pertimes news events or nonevents surface, are exploited, and vanish without benefit of a *B.A.R.* analysis. Part of the reason is that the item or nonitem is not worthy of any protracted discussion. On the other hand, we like to think our readers curious to know the *B.A.R.* position on certain items. (We readily admit that the thinking in that last thought could well be wishful.) For this week we bunched together a basketful of rotten eggs for our reader's nose for the news. One man's slant is another man's slam, so take the ejaculations as they tumble. . .

It's been a bad season for the national press on ethics and integrity. First the *DC Post* and then a New York news yarn trying to pass as Northern Ireland news. Wouldn't you know the *Chronicle* would air express Mr. Blarney himself, Warren Hinckle, to cover the same beat. Meanwhile, the national Gay press arm was hammering out a pink position paper on ethics and integrity in a Dallas powwow.

As Gays would have it, gobs of the draft proposal were gutted. Thankfully, righteousness is not one of our collective strong suits. Alas, the quest for respectability (like that for the Holy Grail) remains as elusive and as idiosyncratic as ever. Should it be otherwise?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The *B.A.R.* is not in ecstasy over watching the Gay Day Committee going into the publishing business. Newspaper, newspaper, I'd give my gonads for a newspaper . . . We expect they'd feel about the same if the local Gay press decided to go into the parade business and spawned a June walk along Mission Street. Tradition has it that political clubs got the beer concession at the celebration. Is there a message in the Parade Committee keeping the concession for itself. Years past — around this time — Parade monitor appeals and training were in full flower. We've yet to hear who's going to be securing the stage this year. Or won't it be necessary now that we sent all the bad guys to the showers?

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The Gay goo this time 'round in City Tales seems a bit strained on occasion. With CBS film footage now the repository of every Gay secret known to San Francisco — and now the nation — what's left to snicker over. The odd in 1981 is less than **in**. The guess the fag movie star game with all clues leading to _____ _____ (*sic*). The old Gay adjective still has use . . . how about "Tacky."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The ups and downs of the Collingwood/Castro parking lot "no parking" signs seem stopped for the while. That the Parking Authority head was willing to walk the last mile for the Mayor might appear commendable to some. That she not know the City Charter's explicit procedures on parking matters — after years at the helm — appears less explicable. Maybe we should just be thankful she's not the Treasurer. And yet it warrants mentioning to our Castro late-night conventioneers that to turn our fabled crossroads into a pubic playpen and public urinal is a golden shower some of us are not ready for. But then there are those who are saying that the Castro cakewalk is past her prime. In any event, the signs are down, and all we have to look at are the badly bent decorator lamp posts.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The ado over the scrap between NGTF and GRNL is muchly that — media ado. As is the "scandal" in the DA's office. When victims catch the media/celebrity bug, we had best think thrice. But then too, straight talk isn't the top man's forte.

P. Lorch

LETTERS

NO LIKEY BOOKIE REVIEW

★ The book reviewer's review of QUEER FREE made me say: "Me think the lady doth protest too much!" Was it time for this reviewer to be "cutesy"? I read this book and I must say I could not put it down, and it is the first gay novel I have found exciting enough to read since I took Gay Lit in college six years ago. At least it had something important to say.

I can only guess why anyone would write under a tag like Alabama Birdstone, but it is as good as Malcolm X. As a matter of fact, why not Arkansas Dogman?

The person who suggested that I read QUEER FREE told me it was the Gay UNCLE TOM'S CABIN. It is a radical gay book, and there aren't many of those around anymore, now that most gays seem to be more interested in the Jaguar than the Moral Majority. Your flip attitude about this explosive book embarrasses me for you, your paper, and for The Castro, for supporting a paper with a reviewer such as yours. I would like to see what other men think about this book. I think it will become a classic of the struggle for our rights and our lives.

Reviews by "Uncle Tom" Howell give us an insight into why he is not reviewing for the TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT, and we can lay bets that if he continues to succeed in creating more pieces like this review, we will, alas, lose him very soon to *The National Enquirer*.

Gay brothers and sisters, read QUEER FREE before you are not free to read at all.

Gary Battleman
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Letter reads very much like an advertisement for the book — one wonders??

P. Lorch

POLICE ROUGH UP NEIGHBORHOOD

★ At approximately 8:45 pm Thursday night (5-15) I was walking down 18th Street a few doors east of Castro. The door to the apartment beside me burst open and a gay man began crying for help as three large men wrestled him to the floor. I ran to help and one of the attackers flashed a badge and yelled, "Police. Get out of here." I retreated to the street as a crowd began to form. Several other men also tried to help since none of us believed that these "toughs" were real police officers. At one point we watched the officers partially strangle the smaller man through the windows in the door. The officer who had originally yelled at me came out onto the porch, drew an automatic pistol, waved it at the crowd and shouted, "All of you, get out of here."

A passing policewoman in a squad car was called for assistance. She called in several more patrol cars. When they arrived, one of the uniformed officers entered the building and spoke with the plainclothesmen. He returned and we (the neighborhood residents who had gathered on the sidewalk) were told, "Thanks for trying to help. This is police business." That was it. No explanation. No sign of the young man whom the plainclothesmen were roughing up. Nothing.

After years of abuse and misjustice at the hands of police officers, are we expected to stand by passively while our own people are openly attacked? The gay man in question may have been breaking every law in the book. The officers may have been taking appropriate action. There are bad gay people. Or, the plainclothesmen may have exceeded their authority (they certainly had no business brandishing an automatic weapon at the crowd). They may have been physically and psychologically harming a helpless person. There are bad **cops**, too.

Those of us on the sidewalk were left with an ugly question. Do we remain passive and let these legal thugs have their way, or do we attack the police and free the man who was begging us for help? The police have an obvious advantage. If they are wrong, it will usually either be handled quietly within the department or simply ignored. If we private citizens try to help when the police seem "armed and dangerous" we become outlaws ourselves. This feeling of powerlessness creates a highly volatile atmosphere. It brings up several basic thoughts:

A. A large percentage of San Francisco's gay population grew up in other parts of the country where we were harassed by police officers from the time we came out of the closet.

B. Gays are acutely aware of the 400,000 + homosexuals in Germany who were marched to the ovens by the straight officers of the Third Reich.

C. Many gay people view ourselves as GAY first and members of the larger society second. Our first urge is to defend our own.

D. After the police attacks at City Hall and at the Elephant Walk during the White Night riots, many of us view the police department as a physical threat.

What I saw Thursday night only served to freshen these thoughts in my mind. I wonder if our Mayor realizes how dangerous such irresponsible actions on the part of the police are? We can't afford to stand by and see our own people abused without apparent reason or explanation. That kind of passivity is appropriate to a police state — not a democracy.

I am very angry about what I saw tonight. And I am puzzled about what action I should personally take on this matter. I am beginning to wonder if our elected officials are capable of responding to such problems at all.

Rick Leathers
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: From the word coming into the office — the incident is not an isolated one.

P. Lorch

PRESSING THE ARCHBISHOP

★ I would ask that you print this brief correspondence in hopes of getting many to "put in their bit."

If you feel as I do about Archbishop Quinn of S.F. Archdiocese's high-handed put-down to the Gay Community, why not ask your family, friends, and relatives from across the U.S. to let him know their thoughts.

Here is my sister's "bit."

Bud Castleman
San Francisco

"Dear Archbishop Quinn:

It is in sorrow that I add my voice to those who protest your repudiation of the Gay community in the recent matter of cancellation of the Gay Men's Choral Concert at St. Ignatius Church.

My brother is a member of San Francisco's Gay community, and he is "My Brother." I am a convert to the Church, which has been a mainstay throughout a happy heterosexual marriage and nurturing of four sons. I would like to see the Catholic Church support worthwhile activities of homosexuals.

Please serve these souls, too. (Name Withheld)"

B.A.R.
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LETTERS

WHERE GOETH THE PARADE RUNNERS?

★ The 1981 Gay Freedom Day Committee is to be congratulated for transforming this year's parade from an open and joyful celebration of gay life into a grim and exclusive leftist political rally. With the exception of John Schmidt (named to placate GGBA who loaned the Committee $5000) the list of speakers reads like a Who's Who among local leftist nuts. Meanwhile, the Committee's literature makes the *Daily World* look positively reactionary by comparison.

Those running the Committee this year are the same howling band who last year excoriated Carole Fitzgibbon, Bruce Goranson, and Amy Fornier for the 1980 celebration program. Now in control, this band has by its actions added new dimensions to the words "bigotry" and "exclusiveness" and "hypocrisy." They are true anarchists: willing to destroy everything to foster their narrow-minded political ideology.

They may have the parade this year; life is too short to fight with such silly fools. We can enjoy the Mint's Tricycle Race, the Los Angeles Gay Freedom Day Parade, and the Castro Street Fair.

Duke J. Armstrong
San Francisco

NEEDS A FRIEND

★ I am a Gay man presently incarcerated at the Wyoming State Prison in Rawlins, Wyoming, and I am so very lonely.

I am now being housed in the Segregation Unit (The Hole) in an isolation cell for my own protection and I am totally alone. You see, sir, Gayness is taken for weakness in this prison and on September 7, 1980, I was gang raped and beaten by a group of convicts. So now I must stay locked up in protective custody to keep the beatings from happening again. But I must say, this lonely isolation is almost more than I can bear. That is the reason for this letter. I am well aware of teh brotherly love in the Gay community of San Francisco and I thought if I wrote to your newspaper perhaps you would be so kind as to print my letter and maybe someone out there will read it who also has a touch of loneliness in his life and can relate to my grief. I have a chance of being paroled soon and I plan to move to the Bay Area when I do. If by chance I hear from a sincere man who accepts my outstretched hand perhaps the foundation for a meaningful lasting relationship may be born which could be built stronger upon my release. At least that is my hope.

I do thank you for the time you have given me in reading my letter and I do hope I have not burdened you with my grief. If it is impossible for you to print my letter, perhaps I could place an ad in your classified section. If you would please use the envelope I have provided to let me know how much you charge I will send you the money. I sincerely thank you.

Jim Carroll, 12449
Box 400
Rawlins, Wyoming 82301

THE REPRESSION OF SOME FEMINISTS

★ The labyris or double-bladed ax was a primary religious symbol in the civilization of ancient Crete. It has come to symbolize matriarchy, and some radical feminists wear one as a sign of commitment to women's freedom. If I were to go into a women's bar wearing a labyris around my neck, no one would think anything of it.

Suppose I were to walk into that same bar wearing a labyris and ancient Cretan women's dress. Which is to say, long curling hair pinned up in back and loose on the sides, makeup, and a very low cut, brightly colored dress with a flounced skirt down to my ankles and a waist cincher underneath. Can you imagine what kind of reception I will get? If anyone speaks to me at all, it will be to ask why I am voluntarily wearing the marks of women's oppression. I doubt it will do me much good to say that the clothes don't symbolize oppression to me, or that I just enjoy dressing up.

Of course, if I wear that costume on the street, I will get harassed, and if I am completely authentic and go barefooted as the Cretan women did, I will get arrested.

All this is by way of saying that I want to add my voice to the protests against NOW's recent Lesbian rights resolution. Rape and street harassment are real issues of violence. The use of images of violence against women to advertise commercial products is a real issue of exploitation. Pornography, on the other hand, is an issue of freedom of thought. Public sex is an issue of freedom of expression and religion. The bans on public nudity and public sexual activity originated historically as part of the campaign by Judaism and Christianity to stamp out Goddess worship, and they still work to that end. Sex with minors (not "pederasty") and sadomasochism are issues of the nature of consent.

We must learn from history. Attempts to portray women as more moral or higher-minded beings than men will work against us in the long run, as they did in the first wave of the feminist movement. Lesbians and feminists have nothing to gain and everything to lose by allying with those who would restrict freedom of thought and expression. Lesbians and women in general are insane to cooperate with anyone who will not take seriously the possibility that people can make their own decisions about the kind of sex they are willing to engage in. If the issue is clouded, as it is for me int he case of adult/minor sex, it is always better to come down on the side of freedom, or to remain silent for a while.

Deborah Bender
Berkeley, CA

TOUTING TESSI

★ Having followed the controversy surrounding Mr. George Heymont, I'd like to add a few verbal logs to the fire. I don't know George at all, but I have to say that ever since he started writing his column, I have followed it enthusiastically. So what if he is campy? I don't think it threatens or violates the music world to be reviewed by one person whose tone is unique and original. Who ever said classical music or ballet was a sacred cow? Furthermore, let those who criticize George equal his performance in meeting deadline after deadline, year after year, and let them put out the money he does to cover events that our own establishment press usually ignores. In his sly, humorous way, George brings an erudition to his column from having attended thousands of performances, and the knowledge always shows through his style.

In a related matter, I was delighted that Mr. Adler had the good sense to apologize, in print, for Mr. O'Connor's gaffe in refusing a press pass to Mr. Heymont. In stating that a Ms. McWilliams had replaced Mr. O'Connor, I assumed that Mr. O'Connor had been fired from the San Francisco Opera's Public Relations Department. However, I understand that Mr. O'Connor is indeed still a member of the department. It might be of some interest to your readers to learn in what capacity Mr. O'Connor is presently engaged. And I do hope that the promised press pass has made, or will have made, its way to Mr. Heymont in time for the much-publicized Summer Opera Festival.

Doug Beardslee
Berkeley, CA

P.S.: I neglected to state that I have friends in New York who are musical artists and agents, and they very much enjoy George's critiques.

ARE WOMEN WELCOME IN THE GUARDS?

★ I notice at the Women's Building on Tuesday nights that "The Guard," San Francisco Gay Freedom Band, has no women participants. How come? Are women welcome? There are women in the Band. I don't want to be the only one if I join The Guard and it seems a good place for Lesbians and Gays to work and play together. I'm new to the city. I hope some women will take an interest and join so I can too. Thanks for printing this. I hope it stirs some interest.

Helen Keyes
San Francisco

CORONER'S NOT ALL THAT CLEAN

★ You should know that Coroner Boyd Stephens, last year, was invited by the S.F. State U. Med. Lab. Tech. Club to give a lecture on job opportunities in forensic (criminal investigation) laboratories.

50% of his talk consisted of slides, with accompanying sexual jokes, on the topic of male homosexual encounters, some of which dealt with forensics. Many of the audience expressed, to me, extreme embarrassment at his derogatory, tasteless and blatantly homophobic heterosexual chauvinism. The amount of sexual comments deriding homosexuality was in vast excess of a little pornographic audience stimulation.

This man is doing the S&M workshops for his own prurient interest. The workshops may be needed; why don't the S&M participants do their own?

A (straight) SFSU Student
(Name withheld for fear of future job reprisals)

AD OBJECTION

★ In the last issue of *B.A.R.* you carried a full-page ad for a porno flick that advertised itself as "the most brutal S/M film ever made."

Do you care about what Gay business owners are doing to the quality of our lives?

Arthur Evans
San Francisco

ED. NOTE: Your pointis well taken. I hadn't noticed it. Had I; I would have sought to do something about the line.

P. Lorch

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Turning Talk Into Fellatio

Caen Slurs Gay Cops

by Allen White

On Monday, May 11, Herb Caen ran a lead item in his *San Francisco Chronicle* column stating that a S.F. Deputy Sheriff and a police officer were caught "engaged in a homosexual act." The column also stated that the Gay cop had filed a complaint charging the straight cop with harassment. The place was identified as South o' Market at about midnight. The *Bay Area Reporter* has found the entire item to be false.

Alan French, the attorney who is currently representing the Gay Freedom Day Committee in their lawsuit against *The National Enquirer*, stated that the item "is actionable."

San Francisco Sheriff Michael Hennessey described the event. There was no sexual activity. Caen's article stated there were two males in a parked car. In fact, there were three people involved. Two were in the car, one outside the car. One was a deputy sheriff, the two others were members of the San Francisco Police Department. All were Gay and what they were doing was talking . . . nothing else. According to Hennessey's account, two police officers, one male and one female, approached the group and requested that they move on. They questioned the action. During the conversation at least one of the officers in the car produced his badge, and they all identified themselves as cops. The two on-duty officers evidently exchanged many homophobic comments. It was these remarks that would have resulted in a complaint within the Police Department. Homophobic remarks by members of the San Francisco Police Department are grounds for disciplinary action.

Herb Caen reported that a complaint had been filed. There is no complaint on file with the Internal Affairs Department at the San Francisco Police Department.

Stories that run in virtually all media regarding the Sheriff's Department and the Police Department are usually checked for accuracy. In this case, Sheriff Michael Hennessey and Henry Friedlander, Police public relations officer, know of no attempt by Herb Caen's office to verify the story.

After the story ran there was reaction from several areas. Bob Barry, head of the Police Officer's Association, received calls and investigated the item. He found it to be totally untrue. He dropped the incident because he found this, like other Herb Caen fabrications, to be not of sufficient importance for him to waste his time.

Police Chief Con Murphy, according to Officer Friedlander, investigated the issue and declined to respond because it was false and there was nothing to pursue. District Attorney Arlo Smith was also sufficiently interested in the item to investigate its accuracy. He too found the article to be totally false.

It is significant that this is not a "blind" item. The people involved have been identified within the two law enforcement agencies. Hennessey deemed it important to know the facts because false rumors within the department, he feels, serve no constructive end and can be a detriment to department morale.

The article also brought comment from attorney Alan French. He noted that the item is grounds for legal action. For this to take place, one of the three officers must file for a retraction in writing within 20 days from the appearance of the item. In the case of the suit against *The National Enquirer*, the journal chose not to retract their homophobic remarks and a lawsuit was filed.

Les Morgan, coordinator of the Gay Outreach Program, which recruits Lesbians and Gay men for the San Francisco Police Department, also viewed the item and noted that it was just another slur on San Francisco's law enforcement agencies and specifically the Gay officers by Herb Caen. Morgan is aware of the event and substantiated Hennessey's account. He also noted that this is now the seventh time in recent months that Caen has chosen to take jabs at Gay police officers in San Francisco. Morgan noted that, "Caen is clearly uncomfortable with the idea of having Lesbians and Gay men on the police force and his series of cheap shots reflect that."

"Like it or not," he said, "one out of every seven police officers in San Francisco being hired is Gay."

Richard Thieriot, publisher and editor of the *Chronicle*, would not respond to our attempts for a comment. Bill German, managing editor of the paper, would also not comment. Jesse Hamlin, aide to Herb Caen, said they stand by the story as correct. He also said Caen would call us regarding the item. If he chooses to comment to the *Bay Area Reporter* it will be published.

It was significant to note as this story was put together that Officer Henry Friedlander, Public Relations Officer of the Police Department; Michael Hennessey, Sheriff of San Francisco; Bob Barry, Presiden tof the San Francisco Police Officer's Association; Arlo Smith, District Attorney of San Francisco; and Les Morgan, head of the Police Outreach Program, all, without exception, treat Herb Caen with a total lack of respect and imply he has become a personality with minimal integrity.

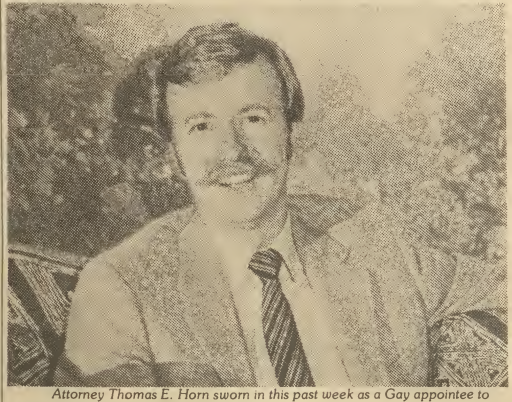
The headline for his column that day was "Pull Cord to Stop Press." Better it should have said, "Pull Cord to Flush!"

Tom Horn Takes Opera House Post

Up-front Gay attorney Tom Horn was sworn in last week as a new member of the War Memorial Board of Trustees. The swearing-in took place in the Mayor's office.

Horn, a native of New Mexico, played a major role in the creation of the Albuquerque Opera Theater. He serves on the executive committee of Pride Foundation's Legal Referral Service and also writes a legal column for the Gay publication *The Voice*.

Horn's presence on the Trustees Board will hopefully resolve the charges of anti-Gay sentiment which have been brought against the board in recent years. Former executive director of the Van Ness Avenue complex, Michael Raines, still has a suit pending against the Trustees. Raines was replaced last year and he charged that the chief reasons were homophobic.



Attorney Thomas E. Horn sworn in this past week as a Gay appointee to the War Memorial Board of Trustees.

Horn replaced former Board President Philip S. Boone, who did not stand for reappointment. Boone was at the center of the controversy over Raines. Much of Horn's responsibility will be to keep the Performing Arts Center solvent — not unnaturally, he will be expected to be both a major contributor and fund raiser.

The Mayor interviewed several well-known Gays for the post, and her final choice was heartily endorsed by leaders of the city's Gay community. Also serving on the Trustees are Gina Moscone, Claude Jarman, and Lily Cuneo, all three of whom are well-known and well-liked San Francisco figures.

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DA Office Case

Fired Gay Will Get Full Hearing

by John F. Karr

After an unusual amount of delay and obfuscating tactics on the part of District Attorney Arlo Smith, an investigation into the firing of Family Support Bureau (FSB) employee Marc Johnson and his subsequent charges of homophobia in the Bureau will commence this week.

Smith had blocked the investigation previously, in hopes that the possibly more lenient Civil Service Commission would handle it, instead of the rather more formidable Equal Employment Opportunity Council (EEO). This latter group offers affirmative action for the city, and is almost a law unto itself. The task of handling the investigation was switched from the EEO to the Civil Service. The Civil Service then abruptly decided that although they would henceforth handle all such cases, EEO's long involvement in the case should be respected. Sylvia Jackson, EEO employee, will conduct the investigation which will take two or three weeks to be completed.

Johnson will appear before the Civil Service Commission to present his case, and then will then hear the EEO's findings. The Civil Service will rule whether Johnson's firing was illegal or not, and determine to reinstate Johnson with full back pay, or uphold the termination.

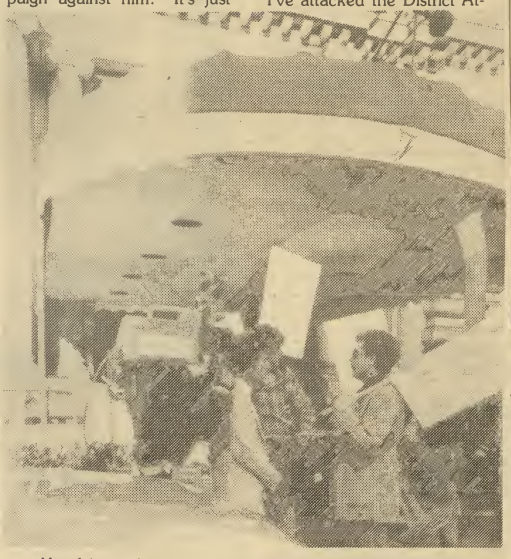
There is no middle ground in the case, although Johnson is confident of going back to work. "I have been denied due process of law all the way along the line until now," he complained, and he feels that due process will resolve in his favor. In the past week his charges of office homophobia have been corroborated by other employees of the FSB who have filed charges of discriminatory treatment against their co-workers. Although it's obvious that office homophobia would not end if Johnson was reinstated, its presence would be checked. One employee threatened to quit if Johnson returned to his job; the homophobes may force themselves out of the office.

Johnson's feelings toward the FSB are not exactly positive, however, and he gamely shrugged off rumors that the DA's office had been attempting to mount a smear campaign against him. "It's just another form of harassment as far as I'm concerned," he said, pointing out other ways in which District Attorney Smith had clouded the case. When Smith reinstated Johnson, later than he should have, it was only to re-fire him. He claimed that Family Support Bureau director Walter Fuchigami was responsible for the second firing. Fuchigami, however, claimed to have acted on orders from Smith.

Smith next told Supervisor Harry Britt that he had found no evidence of homophobia in his office. Yet when speaking to the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, and as recorded in its minutes, he said FSB Investigator Robert Holmes had been transferred to another office because he made homophobic remarks.

In between contradicting himself, Smith had a fundraising banquet at the Fairmont, which was picketed by Johnson's supporters.

Johnson is somewhat cowed by the series of events. "I've attacked the District Attorney," he exclaimed, "which is not something you do lightly. But I've done it because every word I've said is true." ■



Marc Johnson, fired employed, and friends picket Arlo Smith fundraiser at the Fairmont Hotel. (Photo by Rink)



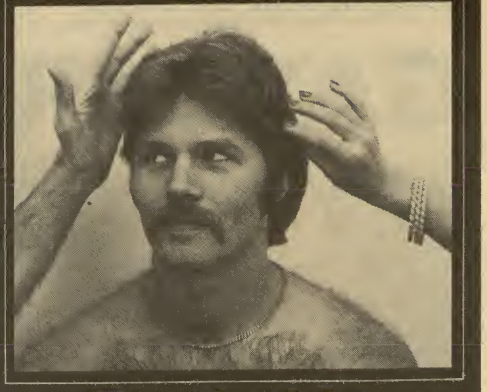
District Attorney Arlo Smith at recent fundraiser. (Photo by Rink)

Britt Moves To Save Gay Community Liaison

Two weeks ago Supervisor Britt submitted a budgetary item appropriating $2,425 in supplemental funds for the Human Rights Commission in order to fund the position of Gay Community Liaison.

This appropriation, submitted with the approval of Mayor Feinstein, will allow the Liaison position to be funded through the current fiscal year, at which time the Human Rights Commission plans to fund the position by other means.

The measure was heard by the Board of Supervisors' Finance Committee on Wednesday, May 13 as Item 7.



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Getting Gays Into Civic Service

GAYCARE:
Party With A Purpose

by John F. Karr

San Francisco is a city absolutely littered with the memories of disco parties. The incredible "Night Flight" set the standard some years ago, and since then huge and lavish dances have competed to out-do each other. Each party has tried to be different, to exhibit a unique identity. Few have been successful in this area, the differences separating each party from the next being the same differences. One dance that will definitely be different is entitled **Because You Care** and the difference is that it is not a commercial venture for its promoters, nor a simple evening of dancing for its guests. It is, instead, a party with a purpose. **Because You Care** is an event at Dreamland on Thursday, May 28, beginning at 8pm. Full use will be made of Dreamland's well-known facilities. The bar and dance floor will be open, and as a bonus guest artists Linda Tillery and Mary Watkins will provide some of their fine music. Billed by its organizers as "perhaps the most important Gay event of the year," **Because You Care** will be co-hosted by Jo Daly, Lesbian activist and S.F. Police Commissioner, together with Jon Sims, founder and director of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band. Special guests include Bill Graham, Charlotte Mailliard, and Lia and Melvin Belli. These people will present the idea behind the dance, and offer the Gay community the opportunity to contribute its substantial resources of talent and energy to volunteer agencies serving the people of San Francisco.

Organized by a group of Gay men and Lesbians calling themselves "GAYCARE," the event has as its focus the opportunities of the city's Gay population to support the hundreds of volunteer organizations which may be needed to provide basic human services in the wake of large cutbacks in government programs. A brief presentation will explain the possibilities and potentials of volunteer service, and introduce many of the organizations who need volunteers. When dancing begins, representatives will be personally available to answer questions, and information packets will be offered to those interested. These will provide the names and phone numbers one might need to reach volunteer agencies and learn where one's own talent and ambition may be applied. The presentation will be followed by the exciting live performances of Mary Watkins and Linda Tillery, and then Dreamland-style dancing and partying will continue.

A spokesperson for the "GAYCARE" organizing group stated that "our May 28 event at Dreamland represents the next logical step in the evolution of the Gay community in San Francisco. During the 1970's, it was necessary for us to focus our energy on the development of our own community and on securing our basic right to be here as Gay people. Although that job may never be totally completed, we are now in a position to turn our energy outward for the benefit of the entire city. This city has been good to us and we have a lot to offer it in return. We are, after all, San Franciscans. It's time to clearly demonstrate how really valuable Gay people can be as citizens of San Francisco. We will also enjoy the opportunity of using our time, talent and creative energy toward solving our city's problems."

Many people are aware of the thousands of hours that are spent in well-publicized hedonistic pursuits, especially in the male community. This is often simply because many people don't know how else to meet people or what else to do with their time. The bar and brunch scene may be great for those who are satisfied spending a lot of time there, but what about the thousands who enjoy that scene only occasionally or not at all? What kind of meaningful alternatives are being offered? In what ways will be continue our growth as a community and as individuals?

The purpose of "GAYCARE" is "to have fun making the City of San Francisco work for everyone, to recognize those who are doing so, and to inspire those who haven't yet."

Because You Care is an experiment in building community, and was created by a group of people with as wide a spread of endeavor as a community can display. Chairman Jim Hormel is an Administrator and Director of the Advocate Research and Education Fund, and Producer Bill Bradley heads a design firm. The program has been directed by Margie Mann, a paramedical student, and business manager Sam Puckett is a management consultant. Publicity is directed by George DeWoody, an art director, and the group is rounded out with the diverse occupations of Jo Daly, Police Commissioner; Alita Rosenfield, a computer technician; Burleigh Sutton, a banker; Mimi Hunt, a marketing consultant; Lynn Tietsworth, a teacher; Zohn Artman, a public relations consultant; and Bruce Johnson, an attorney.

DREAMLAND MAY 28

What this group has in common is the desire to take responsibility for, and contribute to, the overall well-being of the residents of San Francisco.

Tickets are available at Dreamland, Headlines, Lenny's Linen Closet, and Old Wives Tales. ■

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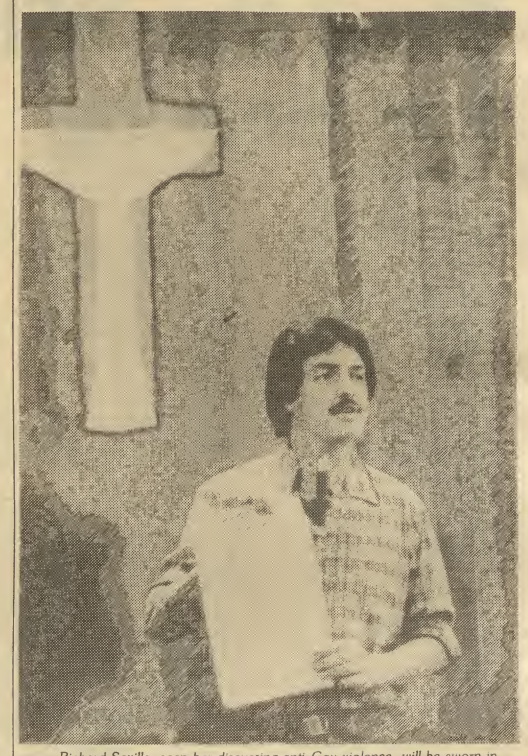
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Gay Named to Human Rights Commission



Richard Sevilla, seen her discussing anti-Gay violence, will be sworn in this week as Gay appointee to the Human Rights Commission. (Photo by Rink)

Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club Corresponding Secretary, Richard A. Sevilla has been appointed to the Human Rights Commission by Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

Sevilla, a resident of the Mission District, has been a participant in the Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund (MALDEF) Leadership and Advocacy Program, member of the San Francisco Employment & Training Council (CETA), and has been HMGay's representative on the city's intergroup clearinghouse.

Sevilla is employed by Antioch University West as their financial aid advisor. He studied at San Francisco State University and is a member of the California State Democratic Central Committee, Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club, North Mission Association, and has been a resident of the city for the past seven years.

Sevilla will be sworn in by the Mayor Tuesday, June 2, at 11:30am.

Four Gay Activists Appointed to Co-Chair Friends of CRIR

San Francisco's Gay Republican club, Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights, recently established a nonpolitical affiliated organization known as Friends of CRIR to permit non-Republicans to participate in a social way in the club's activities, attend its meetings, and receive the monthly newsletter. Appointed as the first co-chairs of Friends are Paul Lorch, editor of the *B.A.R.* and Governor's appointee to the State Commission on Privacy; Carole Fitzgibbon, actively associated with the city's Commission on Aging and a director of Cornerstone; Larry Eppinette, former officer of Toklas Democratic Club and a Gay delegate to the 1980 Democratic National Convention; and Charlotte Coleman, member of the Board of Directors of Atlas Savings & Loan, bar owner, and associate with the Tavern Guild. Each of the new appointees has long been prominent in the city's Gay community. Lorch, Fitzgibbon, and Eppinette are Democrats; Coleman is a Libertarian.

CRIR President Duke Armstrong announced the appointments and indicated that the new organization was CRIR's attempt to socially transcend the narrow confines of the city's party-oriented Gay political clubs. "It is time," said Armstrong, "that we recognize a commonality of interest as San Francisco Gays. CRIR is proud to have Paul and Carole and Larry and Charlotte associated with it."

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First Gay Now State Director For Police Community Relations Officers

Local Program to Go National

During the week of May 7, Larry Hughes, Gay activist and Co-Coordinator of the local Police-Gay-Lesbian Orientation Program, and Officer Paul Seidler, from the San Francisco Police Department, attended the National Conference of Police Community Relations Officers. **For the first time**, at this Conference, the association of Community Relations Officers considered **Gay/Lesbian issues.**

One-half day was devoted to a Panel Discussion, moderated by Chuck Hitchcock from the National Gay Task Force (NGTF). The Panel included four up-front Gay men and Officer Seidler. Besides Hitchcock, the other up-front Gay Panelists included Larry Hughes; Mel Boozer, President of the Gay Alliance of Washington, D.C.; and Dave Hoshall, formerly a member of the Baltimore Community Relations Commission. Representatives of 37 Police Departments attended.

The Conference appointed Officer Seidler a regional Vice-President, and Larry Hughes was designated State Director for California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, and Colorado. **This is the first time** that the police group has appointed an up-front Gay person as an official of the Association.

For the past two years, Hughes and Del Dawson have served as Co-Coordinators of the Police-Gay-Lesbian Orientation Program in San Francisco. The Program has had considerable success, receiving support from the San Francisco Police administration, and from the Police Commission, and receiving support from over 20 local organizations in the city. As a result of this success, and as a result of numerous inquiries from officials in other cities, Hughes and Dawson have announced that the Program will now have a national scope. The Program is now available to Police Departments nationwide. During Hughes' recent trip to the Baltimore Conference, he met with Mayors and their staffs in Washington, D.C., and in Baltimore. These cities are exploring applying the Program to their own Police training programs. Mayor Koch's office, in New York, is also considering the Program.

During his trip Hughes also met with Charles F. Brydon, Co-Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force, and the Rev. Troy D. Perry, founder of Metropolitan Community Church. Both Brydon and Perry are enthusiastically supporting the growth of the National Program. In the next 60 to 90 days a new National Board for the Program will be selected and implement guidelines for the Program.

Gay Honored by Gerontology Society

Dorrwin Jones, founder and executive director of San Francisco's Meals on Wheels Program, was awarded the Western Gerontological Society's (WGS) 1981 Annual Award at a reception on May 20. "Dorrwin Jones was selected for leadership in service to older people and the community far in excess of professional responsibilities," said Gloria Cavanaugh, Executive Director of WGS.

Meals on Wheels delivers hot food to home-bound elderly. Jones was also founder of the Western Addition Senior Center, the first black senior facility in San Francisco.

Jones, a pioneer in the Gay rights movement, was a founding member and President of the Mattachine Society in New York.

"The three communities with which I've worked, older people, blacks, and Gays, are all fighting the same struggle for dignity and rights," said Jones. "I'm proud to be accepting this award as it's an honor in itself but it also marks 30 years of service in the community organizing field."

Eureka Valley Library Dedicated to Harvey Milk



Gwenn Craig, President of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, speaks at the Milk Library dedication. Milk memorabilia are on display. (Photo by Rink)

Two days before the second anniversary of the infamous Dan White verdict, library and civic officials gathered to dedicate the Eureka Valley Library, on 16th St. The short ceremony was a prelude to a two-week long display of heretofore private memorabilia of the late supervisor. Among the officials present to join in the dedication were Supervisors Silver, Renne, Hongisto, Dolson, and former Sup. John Bardis. Absent was Milk's successor, Harry Britt, held up in a special Board committee meeting.

Library officials present said that although the library was officially renamed to honor the late Supervisor, chances were good that in the next cut in the Mayor's budget, the 16th St. branch would probably be closed.

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Transsexual Tells of Tenderloin Rape

by Bruce Bjorum

ED. NOTE: The following story was derived chiefly from the testimony of transsexual Karen Anne Haisler. Because of the allegations we scrupulously examined our source. This ugly tale (whose itemized details are all the more gory) is the culmination of a series of events. Some issues back the Bay Area Reporter ran a letter to the editor wherein the writer made reference to his "girlfriend" being forced to give head in the back of a SFPD unmarked van. Some days later we took a complaint phone call from a police officer who works the Tenderloin. He said that the comment was a black mark on the police and we should not have run it. We promised to check it out — and if untrue to issue an apology.

We wrote to the original correspondent (who was guesting at the city jail) — for a while we suspected a dead end. Some weeks later a reply giving the name and whereabouts of his transsexual friend arrived. We sent out a summer intern B.A.R. reporter who met with Karen Anne Haisler, took a long written statement from her and accepted her story as true.

P. Lorch

"Black put away his gun, pulled me off the seat, and forced me to 'give head.' Then he gave 'Red' his revolver (cylinder type, not automatic) and went back up front. Red made me go down on him for a couple of minutes, then he pushed me back and stood there touching himself, spinning the cylinder and striking me afterward. . ."

According to Karen Anne Haisler, a San Francisco transsexual, this incident occurred on Saturday, March 28, 1981, between 1:30pm and 3pm. The "Black" and "Red" mentioned here were police officers, who along with a third officer, "Blond," abducted Haisler that afternoon and sexually assaulted her in a police van. The van was parked on Willow Street behind Northern Police Station while the sexually traumatic episode happened.

Black penetrated Haisler anally, and then Red shoved a revolver into Haisler, saying, "Whee! This is real Russian roulette; ain't it, faggy?" Blond then put Haisler on her knees and "put himself in my mouth and 'pumped' for a few minutes," Haisler said.

Haisler was handcuffed throughout the ordeal, suffered bruises on her wrists, arms and breasts, and cried continuously. When she was released from the van, Black said, "I hope this makes you realize that we can do any damn thing we want to you, anytime we want to — and that includes blowing your goddamn head off if we decide to," according to Haisler.

Haisler filed a report with Community United Against Violence (CUAV) on Monday, March 30, which is confidential. On Tuesday, March 31, she filed a report with Internal Affairs at the San Francisco Police Department.

Later Haisler filed a report with Inspector Robert Huegle of Sexual Assault at SFPD. Huegle said on May 14 that an investigation of the report was done, and "no arrests or identifications were made."

Haisler said this incident is related to her involvement with Christopher Olmstead, 28, who is currently in the city jail, where he has been since his arrest on Friday, March 6, 1981, at 6pm. Haisler and Olmstead lived together for seven and a half months prior to his arrest.

Olmstead on March 6 lost his temper and said to two plainclothes officers, Madden (Badge No. 1331) and Herran (Badge No. 1947), "Harass a man, not kids." According to Haisler, he was wrestled to the ground, and at the corner of Post and Larkin "the two plainclothes officers tried to kick him to death" as five uniformed policemen held him to the ground.

It was 1:45am on March 7 before Olmstead was booked, as he had to be taken to San Francisco General due to the beating he received, Haisler said. Olmstead was carrying 37 pieces of jewelry which belonged to Haisler, and she said only 26 pieces have been recovered.

Haisler became visible at SFPD as a result of her insistent search for her jewelry prior to the March 28 incident, and her inquiries into the case of Olmstead. Al Crespo is Olmstead's public defender, and according to Haisler he recently said to her, "Olmstead is where he belongs."

Olmstead was on three years' probation for an incident which happened at the Eureka Bar last year, Haisler said. At that time he was drunk and got into a fight with three other people.

Eventually Haisler lost over $4800 worth of jewelry, but one positive aspect was her discovery of the Sexual Trauma Center at Central Emergency, located at 50 Ivy Street. "They have a doctor and counselors on duty 24 hours, and I can call anytime and they're always willing to talk," Haisler said. Evidence of sexual assault which is acceptable in court is taken.

"I guess because of the Moral Majority police feel they have the right to hate Gay people. There's an attitude of repressed hatred in the SFPD, but they're not repressing it like they used to," Haisler said. ■



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New Exec for GRA

Jean O'Leary, former co-chair of the National Gay Task Force (NGTF) was hired last week as executive director of the San Francisco-based Gay Rights Advocates (GRA),

NGTF is the largest Gay organization in the nation and specializes in education, working with federal officials, and coordinating the Gay network. GRA is the national Gay public interest law firm.

O'Leary, who has been living in Los Angeles since her tenure at NGTF and reportedly selling real estate, will be responsible for increasing GRA's membership and financial support. She assumes her new post for an undisclosed salary and it has not been determined if she will move to San Francisco. O'Leary has been active in the Gay rights movement for over a decade. In 1976 she was a delegate from New York to the Democratic National Convention; in 1980 she was an alternate. During the Carter administration, she was appointed to the President's commission in observance of National Women's Year.

"GRA has an outstanding track record," O'Leary said in a prepared statement, "but its administrative level has not kept pace with the terrific accomplishments in the court room. We want to change that," she continued, "by strengthening our membership and building a strong financial base."

GRA — a nonprofit foundation formed in 1977 — has been highly successful in its ground-breaking legal work. GRA is run by a 15-member board of directors, 9 of whom are from San Francisco. At present the staff consists of one attorney, Don Knudsen, and one assistant. A 6-person staff is the goal (a legal director and two staff attorneys, an executive director, administrative assistant and a secretary). "With a staff like that," said Knudsen, "we can make the national impact that we have been successful in doing on a limited basis in the past."



GRA's Don Knutson and new Executive Director Jean O'Leary. (Photo by Rink)

Legal Services for Poor

Anti-Gay Amendment Again

Washington, D.C.

The Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) announced May 8 that a House Subcommittee on Courts, Civil Liberties, and Administration of Justice has again added an anti-Gay amendment to the Legal Services Corporation authorization bill.

In a climate where the Subcommittee attempted to anticipate and placate objections which could kill the entire legal aid program for the poor, Caldwell Butler (R-Roanoke, VA) moved the anti-Gay amendment, weaker than the one added in the House-Senate Conference Committee last session. Although Gay lobbyist Steve Endean acknowledged that the amendment, which prohibits Legal Services funds for the "legalization of homosexuality," is less restrictive than the original McDonald amendment, he said that the amendment was an "unnecessary insult to tax-paying Gay citizens" and pledged to fight to have it deleted in full Judiciary Committee. Unlike the original "McDonald language," this amendment would not eliminate Gay citizens' access to the Legal Services program.

Newly-elected Congressman Barney Frank (D-Mass.) has pledged to move to delete the amendment in full committee. GRNL indicated that the Judiciary Committee, which has a larger percentage of social justice-oriented members than the House of Representatives as a whole, offers our best chance of victory. Endean said, "If we can't delete this amendment in the Judiciary, our chances on the floor would be remote."

The Gay Lobby noted, however, that the actual impact of the amendment remains in doubt partly because President Reagan has slated the Legal Services Corporation for extinction. Even if the authorization bill is enacted, the program may be ended by eliminating any appropriations.

Another Gay Tourist Returned by INS

by Konstantin Berlandt

And yet another Englishman has been stopped by U.S. Customs for being Gay. Phillip Fotheringham says he was placed back on a plane to London on behalf of U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) authorities.

Fotheringham, who has dual citizenship in Canada and England and also lived in Virginia Beach, USA, for six years, while his NATO officer father was stationed there, wa

father was stationed there, was traveling from London to Toronto May 5 with a stopover in the States to visit a friend in Washington, D.C., when Kennedy Airport Customs officials searching through his luggage pulled out a letter from a lover and confronted him on his homosexuality.

He admitted it, and INS authorities, after 2½ hours of harassment, returned him to TWA management to place him back on a plane across the Atlantic.

Fotheringham, in a recorded phone call to Parade Committee co-chair Greg Day here, seems just as angry at TWA officials as at the INS. It was TWA officials, he says in the recorded conversation, who refused him his passport unless he returned to the plane.

Without precedent of deportation papers, TWA authorities, calling him "sick," pressed Fotheringham back on the plane under threat of physical force, according to his detailed account played back by Day.

Demonstrations are planned outside U.S. embassies and consulates in London, Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Toronto and Sydney, according to Day, who also spoke to another INS victim, Carl Hill, in London, refused entry when he arrived in San Francisco to attend the Gay Parade in 1979.

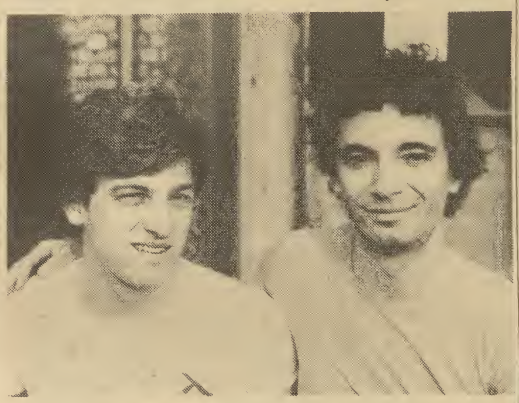
Solidarity may organize a noontime Union Square rally in concert with the worldwide protests. Organizers plan to announce the international boycott of TWA airlines in front of their offices on the Square.

Fotheringham is now suing both TWA for illegal incarceration and the American government for violations of their own Immigration regulations.

Explains Gay Rights Advocates and Carl Hill lawyer Don Knutson, who has also spoken with Fotheringham in London and his New York and Los Angeles attorneys, it would seem that "Immigration officials are still not cognizant of, or else not following their own regulations."

Explains Gay Rights Advo-

About a month ago, Knutson says, he won a clarification of INS rules on behalf of Mexico dress designer Jaime Chavez (strip-searched and locked in a room for two days at the San Francisco airport by INS authorities a year and a half ago). Judge Stanley Weigel here ruled in the Chavez case, according to Knutson, "that no immigration official is to ask any questions about anyone's sexual orientation unless given unsolicited, unambiguous admission from the person himself or a report from a contemporaneous traveler — neither of which occurred in this



Englishman Philip Fotheringham returned by INS — joined by Carl Hill, who two years ago was similarly harassed at SFO. (Photo: Kris Kirk, Gay News London)

case, if what Fotheringham has told me is accurate. They stopped and asked him and he said yes."

Knutson points out that Judge Weigel's ruling refusing to throw out the Chavez case also made INS officials personally liable in such cases where they are proven to have violated their own regulations. Except that Fotheringham signed a "withdrawal of application" while under INS questioning, Knutson says he may well have a "valid damage claim."

Attorney Knutson is proceeding with Chavez' million dollar suit of the government.

Not that Knutson is at all satisfied with INS regulations as they stand, even after such clarification. He is awaiting a Board of Apepals in Washington, D.C., decision following his January hearing on behalfof Hill he hopes will throw out the whole deviant status statute as it has been applied to homosexuals.

Knutson says he has also asked the National Gay Task Force to seek under the Freedom of Information Act a tally of how many people INS officials have turned back at U.S. borders and airports since the Reagan administration takeover. Knutson plans also to approach new Acting Director of INS Carol Weisner, appointed this week, on the subject of how that department will continue to relate to homosexuals attempting to visit or immigrate.

Day hopes both Hill and Fotheringham will attend this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day ceremonies June 28, and is also concerned that other already invited international speakers may have trouble crossing the border to attend. ■

Toronto Baths Under Attack Once More

Gay Community News reports that Toronto police recently arrested six Gay men and charged them with conspiracy to live off the proceeds of crime and conspiracy to commit crime. All six are owners or own shares in local bath houses. The crimes they are charged with include "running a common bawdy house, distributing and selling obscene material, commission of acts of buggery and commission of acts of gross indecency."

Of the men arrested, one holds an elected position on the City Planning Board, and another is an activist attorney. Jack Campbell, owner of the Club Bath in Miami, was also arrested. The "obscene matter or materials" which the men are charged with distributing include such paraphernalia as cock rings, butt plugs, tit clamps, and ass spreaders.

According to Canadian criminal codes a person cannot be prosecuted for "gross indecency" if the act is done in private and involves only two people who are husband and wife or consenting adults over the age of 21. A common bawdy house is defined as a place that is occupied for the purposes of prostitution or the practice of acts of gross indecency.

Peter Maloney (the activist attorney under arrest) stated, "There is a confluence of interest within the Toronto Police Department and the Canadian and U.S. intelligence communities. The Toronto police mean to close down the baths completely,



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Gay Fathers —

During Gay Pride Week

San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers, with 125 active members locally, will be hosting the fourth national meeting of the Gay Fathers Coalition. Approximately 30 delegates representing Gay fathers organizations in 20 cities around the U.S. and Canada are expected to attend. Delegates will meet Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27, at 150 Eureka Street in San Francisco. In connection with the national delegate meetings, the San Francisco Gay Fathers have planned the following events for any and all Gay fathers who attend:

Friday, June 26: 150 Eureka, 3-5pm. A workshop on Gay parenting issues for Gay fathers (call 922-8377 for details).

Friday, June 26: 152 Eureka, 6-8pm. Cocktail reception for the delegates and San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers (no-host cash bar). All Gay fathers and friends welcome.

Saturday, June 27: 150 Eureka, 3-5-pm. A workshop on Gay parenting issues for Gay fathers (call 922-8377 for details).

Sunday, June 28: 11am. All Gay fathers are invited to march together in the Gay Freedom Day Parade (children welcome) . . . for parade line-up location call 922-8377 after Friday, June 26.

Sunday, June 28: 1015 Folsom, 3-6pm. After the Parade Party. Hot dogs, beer and soft drinks for sale; entertainment for the children.

On a regular basis, the San Francisco Bay Area Gay Fathers meets the first Sunday of each month at 6pm, usually in a member's home. The meeting starts with a potluck supper and then breaks into smaller discussion groups on various topics of interest to Gay fathers and partners or lovers. Average attendance at these monthly meetings is 50. To be on the mailing list for meeting announcements, call Tom McGee at 922-8377.

"Gay Life" Features Sam Steward

Samuel M. Steward, longtime friend of Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas, associate of a host of literary lights, coresearcher with Dr. Alfred Kinsey, and accomplished tattoo artist, will be the guest on "The Gay Life" on KSAN, 95FM, on Sunday, May 24, at 11pm.

Steward, who earlier edited *"Dear Sammy: Letters from Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas,"* has just published *"Chapters from an Autobiography."* In it, he details with wit and grace: his beginnings in small-town Ohio, his early career as a college English teacher, encounters with Lord Alfred Douglas, Andre Gide, Thomas Mann, and Thornton Wilder, his friendship with Stein and Toklas, his assistance to sex researcher Kinsey.

Gay Youth Convene

The first statewide conference for Lesbian/Gay youth will take place in San Francisco as part of Gay Freedom Week. The conference, sponsored by the Gay Youth Community Coalition of the Bay Area, will begin sharply at 1pm, June 26.

The conference will focus on the issues and concerns which Gay youth are faced with. Organizers are looking for guest speakers from the Gay youth communities.

The conference will be held in the Commissioner's Room of the Main Public Library on Larkin and McAllister Streets. For registration forms, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: P.O. Box 846, San Francisco 94101. There will be registration at the door also.

In addition, the Gay Youth Coalition of the Bay Area is sponsoring the third annual "Pre-Parade Picnic Party" on Saturday, June 27, 1-4pm, at Mission Dolores Park (on the corner of 20th & Church Streets).

The Poster/Placard Party is an annual event created by and for Lesbian and Gay youth. The event offers young people an opportunity to play an active role in the Gay Freedom Parade. The sponsors ask participants to bring their own food and supplies which will insure more visibility in the parade.

Please contact the Youth Switchboard for more information, 552-6025.

Queen's Thesaurus

A Name on the Door Rates A Gigolo on the Floor

Should you ever need to look up a bit of Gay slang it's always handy to have Bruce Rodgers book **GAY TALK**, (formerly **THE QUEEN'S VERNACULAR**) on hand. One of the few dictionaries to have catalogued the street talk of a minority subculture, Rodgers' book offers some wonderful reading as well as historical insights into Gay language. Some precious samples include:

Haul Out A Personality: *I.E.* "That man was so hung — it took me ten minutes to haul out his personality!"

High Fi: mouth of one who lacks the intelligence of knowing when to keep it shut. "Tone down the high fi, dear, I can't hear the brownies cooking."

Jewish Renaissance: overelaborate furniture in doubtful taste.

Kitchen Queen: one who stands while receiving a cock up his ass. This position is comfortable for the passive partner, since, while in an upright position he is able to continue cubing vegetables for the salad.

Lampshade Queen: inferior decorator.

Launching Pad: the bed. "They strolled ham in ham to the launching pad."

Kintama: A Japanese homosexual, synonymous with Samurai Sue (camp term used in SF '71). "It may be beautiful koto music to you, peaches, but to me it's just Samurai Sue bangin' away on her rubber bands."

Mafia Misunderstanding

A Kiss Is Just A Kiss

These days most of us are used to the sight of two men affectionately hugging and kissing each other. But there are still parts of America where such open affection can be misinterpreted. Recent testimony by Detective Robert Delaney before a Senate subcommittee revealed that the Mafia, among its other potential violations, may not be an equal opportunity employer.

Delaney had spent a year undercover as President of a fake trucking firm in order to investigate Mafia operations. One faction was concerned about preserving certain old standards among Mafia customs, including the ritual of men hugging and kissing one another as greeting. But when this took place in one of the favorite bars with a new bartender present, a small scene almost developed into a catastrophe. The new bartender made a classic mistake and asked if this was a Gay bar.

The Mafia don involved failed to see any humor in the question and dispatched one of his henchmen to inform the bartender about proper social etiquette. Delaney reported that when the bartender returned he was shaking so much "that he could hardly pour a drink."

CUAV Frag . . .

Following the expulsion of several members of the CUAV Task Force from a meeting of "Gospel Outreach" at First Christian Church, plans were announced for a demonstration to be held at the church on Sunday, May 24. The event will precede the Harvey Milk Birthday Picnic, to be held just across the street in Duboce Park. The demonstration will begin at 11:30am at Duboce and Noe Streets. Further information can be obtained from the Community United Against Violence office at 864-8347.

Lesbian & Gay Poetry — 20's to 70's

Lesbian and Gay poetry from the 20's to the 70's will be read in a workshop from 1-5pm Saturday, May 23, at Fort Mason's Building D, 2nd Floor — $2 donation.

Male poets include C.P. Cavafy, George Seferis, Laurence Durell, Tennessee Williams, W.H. Auden, Allen Ginsberg. Noni Howard is organizing readings from significant Lesbian poets that may include Adrienne Rich and Gertrude Stein, not to mention contemporaries Suzanne Griffin and Judy Grahn.



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CUAV

A Perfect Night, Almost

Ron Wickliffe

Which Scenario Will Be Yours?

The evening is clear and calm. There is an almost festive air after a beautiful Saturday afternoon. People are partying, playing, cruising, and enjoying the variety of this wonderful city. The bars and restaurants and streets in the Castro are crowded with people looking for love, companionship, relaxation, pleasure, and each other.

Joe has been catching some rays on the roof of his apartment building. After a shower, a light dinner, and a little smoke he walks down to his favorite bar in the Castro. He looks very hot. His tight 501's show off a perfect ass, and his pale blue tank top beautifully sets off his torso, muscles rippling under smooth tan skin. Joe feels good, and is enjoying himself.

Several drinks later, he and Larry decide to go home together. Larry is taller than Joe, and a little slimmer. He is hot for Joe, and Joe is turned on by Larry's wit and his sparkling eyes. They leave the bar and are walking arm in arm whispering sweet nothings, each with a warm feeling in his crotch and each looking forward to a good time in bed.

"Hey, faggots, get the fuck off this street if you don't want to die! You fucking queers are ruining this city!" All of a sudden the street seems very cold and very deserted, except for Joe and Larry and five young toughs. One has a knife, another a club.

Ending One

Joe wakes up in a hospital room. He hurts all over. Gradually he becomes aware of another man in the room with him.

"How do you feel?" the male nurse asks.

"What happened? Where am I? How did I get here?"

"A woman heard the commotion and called the cops. They scared off the gang that was beating up on you and your friend, but they didn't catch them. The cut over your eye isn't too bad, only seven stitches. You were lucky you didn't lose the eye. The stab wound in your side missed your kidney by about an inch. You have two broken ribs, but the rest is just bruises. We were worried about your hip, but the x-rays don't show a fracture. With any luck, you'll be out of here in 3 or 4 days. It shouldn't cost more than about $4,000. Do you have insurance?"

"What about Larry? Is he okay?"

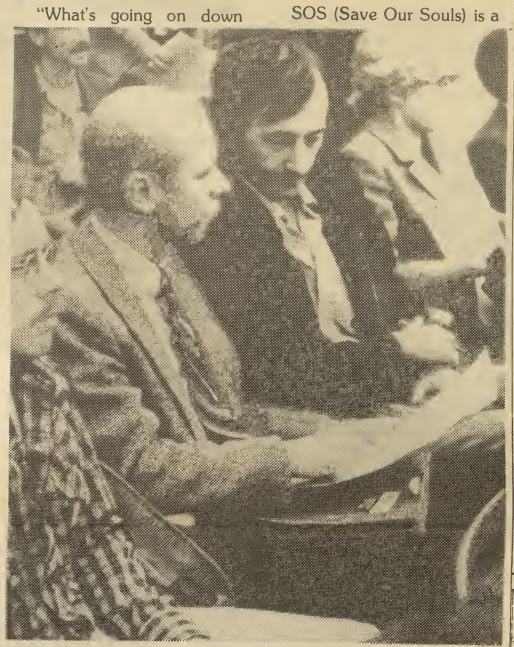
"Larry just came out of surgery. He'll live, but he'll be laid up for a long time. He was very lucky. With both lungs punctured, if the medics had gotten there a minute later, he'd be dead. He has eight stab wounds."

"Oh, my God!"

Ending Two

Joe hadn't noticed it, but Larry was carrying a can of Mace in his hand with the safety off. With one swift motion, he let go of Joe, put his whistle in his mouth, which was easy because he always carried it on a chain around his neck, and started blowing with all his might. As the youth with the knife lunged at him, Larry's foot instinctively lashed out. There was a sickening crackle of bones breaking as the knife flew out of his hand, a scream of agony as a stream of Mace hit the face of the one with the club, and the sound of running feet as the three untouched toughs disappeared into the darkness. A window flew open.

"What's going on down there? I'm calling the police!"



(L to R) CUAV'er Rick Howley, Carl Carlson, and Dick Stingel at City Hall committee meeting. CUAV keeps tabs on MM requests from the city. (Photo by Rink)

The Moral of the Story

Joe and Larry are fictitious. The events are not. We have received hundreds of assault reports over our hotline, UNITED-1 (864-8331) with countless variations of both ending one and ending two.

There are some patterns. A whistle, a can of Mace, awareness, self-confidence, the willingness to spend a couple of dollars on a taxi when things don't feel quite right, taking responsibility for yourself and your own safety; these things can make a difference. Think about it.

The Castro, Polk, Folsom, Valencia, and Land's End are the most popular areas for queer-bashing. Be careful in these places. Find a friend and avoid walking alone.

MACE CLASS

Our next Mace class is Saturday, May 23, at 10am. The class takes two hours, costs $30, and includes training, certification, and a can of Mace. It will be held at 117 Diamond Street, just off 18th.

Mace is an effective self-defense device. It can disable your assailant in 2-3 seconds and causes no permanent harm. The effects last about half an hour.

CUAV SCORES WITH THE TASK FORCE

We are pleased to announce that First Covenant Church has withdrawn from SOS San Francisco, after a nonviolent demonstration held at the church at 18th and Dolores by the Task Force on the Moral Majority about a month ago.

SOS (Save Our Souls) is a coalition of more than 40 evangelical groups, mostly from outside San Francisco, which sends street preachers into Gay and Lesbian neighborhoods to evangelize, proselytize, and harass us. SOS had been using First Covenant as a base, where the junior preachers met and were dispatched into our areas to spread their message of "love" (?).

Last fall SOS was responsible for sending about 4000 evangelists to San Francisco for a week to invade the Castro and Polk areas. Many of you will recall the success of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence in exorcising these do-gooders from the Castro.

The Task Force is planning similar nonviolent demonstrations at other SOS bases in the city. ■

Gay Public Healthers to Join Parade

The Gay/Lesbian Health Services Coordinating Committee of the San Francisco Department of Public Health are participating in the Gay Freedom Day activities June 28 by marching in the parade and having an information booth.

They sent the following call: "If you work in the health field — be it as clerk, secretary, administrator, technician, nurse, or doctor — and/or are supportive of Gay/Lesbian health services, we invite you to join us on Freedom Day by marching and/or staffing our booth. Sign up now by contacting Ron Snyder at 558-2226, Monday through Friday, 9am to 4pm."



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MEDIA QUEEN

Parade Apologia

KONSTANTIN BERLANDT

Politics Estranges Bedfellows

Last issue I published my strongest fantasy, the one that's gotten me off before bedtime literally hundreds of times in the last six months. Published and dead.

I hardly call my ex-lover. We are estranged bedfellows.

And John, this new one, he never calls me. C'est la vie.

I am lying in bed now waiting for some new lover or fantasy to take hold of my mind and body. And meanwhile there's so much work to do around producing this year's parade.

A year ago I had been involved in protesting the movies "Cruising" and "Windows" and figured the topic was worthy of a speaker at Gay Freedom Day. I approached Richard Sevilla at Esta Noche about it. He told me there would be no speakers, period. I thought he was kidding and had another beer.

The *B.A.R.* assigned me to do an article on parade financing, which revealed not only a runaway budget but also a serious political schism central to our politics as a whole.

The Executive Committee of the Parade Committee had told its General Membership that they could not reverse an earlier adopted plan to have no speakers. Membership meetings had also been canceled to prevent more internal rebellion to how the elected officers intended to run the parade.

It all smacked of something much more serious than simply having no speakers for aesthetic reasons. It suggested, in fact, the end of the line, the death of the Movement. Gay Liberation, a fragile thing to start with, had come and gone, burst upon the scene with cross-dressing and marijuana, and died in the corporate homes of those who could afford both without hassles from police. There would be no more speeches, no more membership, no more democracy within the movement. We had moved to Phase II: where corporate expertise took over every aspect from the slickest graphics to top performers, and the masses in the streets sang, danced and were happy to be thrown crumbs and circuses.

Well, needless to say, having been politicized by the Berkeley Free Speech Movement and involved in the founding days of the Gay Liberation Front, I pitched in with other people around the issue of having speakers on that stage, and once the ball got rolling in that direction, we spent another six months fighting and negotiating over the democratic structure of the Parade Committee itself to prevent such a debacle as we confronted in 1980 from ever happening again.



To our eventual surprise, suddenly the opposition seemed to cave in completely. Those who had drafted new by-laws to eliminate the General Membership now resigned themselves. Those who'd maintained we were only out to disrupt now turned over the whole ball of wax and said, "Here, you run with it." And that included last year's wrung out credibility, fincially and otherwise.

The people producing this year's parade were never out to take it over. We were there to facilitate democratic process. We were more involved in other things. We were there to be sure the people would continue to have not just **A** voice but **The** voice in formulating the politics and structure of Our Parade, that just so happens to be the one and only magical event that does indeed bring us all together, reunites us in the common struggle for the common goal of Lesbian/Gay Liberation.

We are, indeed, a blessed people to have such an event that annually both brings us all together and conversely clarifies who we are. Since Gay and Lesbian are, in a very important way, merely abstract concepts, we need something like a parade to clarify their meaning, to say who we are; and not just the business advertisements or straight press to define us.

Speakers and entertainers are there hopefully to give us some direction. We march down the street to Civic Center Plaza every year and then what? What have we learned from the previous year? Where shall we go in the next? These are the questions speakers should and must address.

But the point I wish to make most strongly is that the small group of people now saddled with the enormous task of producing this year's parade efficiently, economically, fairly, etc., are by no means perfect, by no means the very answer to democratic process they sought and fought to preserve.

Like a democratic government America so boldly hypes, it is up to the people themselves to make it work or die trying.

So too with the Parade Committee. There is a new spirit within the Movement I have felt growing over this last year, and the fight over who controls the parade — the people or the corporation? — has certainly inspired and helped revitalize a trust in democratic principles, a faith in the idea that we can and do control our own lives, our own destinies, our own realities, our own politics, and naturally, our own Movement.

But the satisfaction of a lively movement that involves input from all of us is the real joy of what we're doing, and such perfection/liberation will never come from any small band of leaders or radicals.

Only when they excite the imagination of all the people will we see that great march down Market Street lead to some true liberation that only is possible in an active society that has eradicated fear, so that people are free to love one another.

Konstantin Berlandt

P.S.: The Parade Committee has a serious need now for volunteers to answer phones, sell buttons and T-shirts, distribute flyers, expand subcommittees, formulate policy, etc., and monitor or staff Parade booths on the day of the event. Call the Committee at 861-5404. ■

Coinciding with Parade

Gay Physicians to Sponsor National Symposium

Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights (BAPHR), a San Francisco-based medical organization of over 300 Gay and Lesbian physicians, is sponsoring a symposium entitled "Medical Issues in Sexual Orientation" Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27, at the headquarters of the S.F. Medical Society.

Dr. William Kapla, Coordinator of the course, indicated, "The Symposium will cover a spectrum of medical and psychological issues related to the health care of the Gay and Lesbian patient, and will be presented from the perspective of physicians who share the same sexual orientation." Presentations will include: Current Diagnosis and Treatment of Sexually Transmitted Disease, Psychological Issues of Alternate Lifestyles, Sexual Dysfunction, Drugs and Sex, Medical-Legal Issues, Practical Proctology, "The Medicine Cabinet" (Doctors in the Closet), and others. Dr. Kapla stated, "We are particularly pleased to have the cooperation of the San Francisco Medical Society; this demonstrates that openly Gay physicians can work with the medical community to organize and provide professional educational programs geared to the needs of Gays."

Saturday afternoon (optional) will be devoted to planning for a national organization or coalition of physicians. Dr. Richard Andrews, Associate Cooridnator, indicates this will be an important aspect of the Symposium, and said, "Most Gay physicians in this country practice in the closet. Whether we are able to 'come out' or not, we need to establish a means by which we can be supportive of each other and exchange valuable medical information that is often not available through the 'medical establishment.' A national organization would provide a forum for promoting the physical and emotional well-being of Gays. Equally important, we would then be able to respond more effectively to 'information' based on misunderstanding, inaccuracy, or gross bias, when it appeared in the medical literature and the public media."

The Symposium is scheduled in conjunction with Gay Pride Week, and participants will be invited to march with the BAPHR contingent in the Gay Freedom Day Parade and "celebrate with several hundred thousand friends."

Registration fee is $95 for practicing physicians, $50 for physicians in training, and $20 for medical students, and the deadline is June 25. The course will provide 9 hours of Continuing Medical Education credit. For more information, write to: BAPHR Symposium, P.O. Box 14546, San Francisco, CA 94114; or call (415) 673-3189 (9am to 9pm).

Harvey Milk Birthday Party: A Sunday in the Park

The 1981 Celebration of the Life and Birthday of Harvey Milk will conclude with a Sunday in the Park party in Duboce Park. The event begins this Sunday at 1:00pm in the park located at Duboce and Steiner Streets.

The afternoon will feature music by David Kelsey and Pure Trash, The Glide Ensemble from Glide Church, and The Lloyds. The only speakers scheduled for the afternoon are Cecil Williams and Gwenn Craig.

This year people are being encouraged to pack a picnic lunch, bring a basket, sit on the grass, and enjoy the music. There will be a sound stage at the foot of the park for the performance of the musicians.

This party in Duboce Park is the fourth event sponsored by the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club to celebrate the life of Harvey Milk. The first event was a special tribute Monday at the Board of Supervisors' meeting by John Molinari. Tuesday evening, the Eureka Valley Library was rededicated in honor of the assassinated Supervisor. Wednesday evening the club sponsored a cocktail party in the rotunda of City Hall with special music by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus.

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Stage:
LEAP OF FAITH
Lessons in Lesbianism

by Mark Topkin



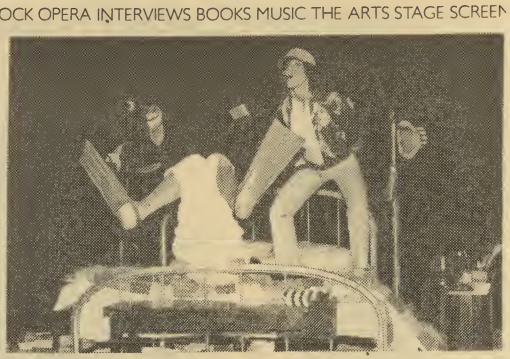
LEAP OF FAITH, current Lesbian play with Lisa Seldin and Lisa McMillan now at the Olde Venetian Bakery Theatre.

Linda Thornburg's LEAP OF FAITH is more an extended skit than a play, and serves, in a sense, as a primer for the emerging Lesbian. Didactic as it may be, it is, nonetheless, amusing thanks mostly to Cookie Harlin's inventive, sometimes elegant direction.

The two characters, Louise, a writer secure in her Lesbian identity, and Emmy, a recent divorcee just coming out, spend the entire play cavorting in and around their bed as they ponder the reality of a Lesbian lifestyle in a male-dominated, heterosexual society. Through a combination of Louise's lectures and skits-within-the-skit, the women attempt to create a sympathetic picture of the often painful choices and compromises that must be made on a day-to-day basis if they are to remain true to themselves.

Unfortunately, LEAP OF FAITH never leaps beyond the expected. Dealing with bosses, co-workers and relatives are obvious difficulties that have been dealt with before — if not from a strictly Lesbian perspective than at least from a feminist or male homosexual perspective — and there is little insightfully new here. Still, Lisa McMillan and Lisa Seldin create some delightful moments with their illustrations, responding with artful fluidity to Ms. Harlin's direction.

LEAP OF FAITH will play through June at the Olde Venetian Bakery Theatre, 2202 Powell. Call 986-0427 for reservations and performance schedule. ■



LEAP OF FAITH cast prepares to swim the English Channel . . . in bed.

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Mixed Chorus Spring News



San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus will hold a concert Saturday, May 30, at Trinity Episcopal Church (Bush & Gough). Seating is unreserved and the ticket price is $5.

The photo of the mixed chorus was taken at a retreat earlier this month at Aptos, California. Some 70 members participated. (Photo by Glenn Moses)

The San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus under the direction of Robin Kay presented their "Premiere Performance" one year ago this month. In that time their joint commitment to the community has grown even greater and is reflected in their motto, "Together in Harmony."

"The mixed chorus is a diverse group varying in age, interests, careers and origins," says a Chorus press release. "The cement that binds us, however, is our care for our community, our music and each other."

In addition to the full chorus there is also the Chamber Chorus, primarily singing madrigals, and the Vocal Minority Group which sings more popular selections. Both of these smaller groups are also under the direction of Robin Kay.

Chorus and productions management is handled by chorus members Linda Rhode and Deb Clifford.

The Chorus has invited the entire community to join them at their spring concerts on May 30 and 31. The first concert is 8pm Saturday night at Trinity Church (Bush & Gough). The second is Sunday, May 31, at 3pm at the First Congregational Church (Mason near Post).

Robin Kay, who has been the Chorus' director since its founding in January, 1980 has been invited to conduct the New York Gay Men's Chorus. Gary Miller, director of the New York group, has asked Kay to lead his group in a December concert at Carnegie Hall.

The One...



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Concert:

Gay Musicians Unleash Riches

Impressive Concerts by Local Groups

by George Heymont

I recently had the extreme pleasure of attending two concerts back-to-back which offered a wealth of repertoire the likes of which one rarely encounters. It was especially pleasing to see so many local Gay musicians having a chance to perform in public. What fascinated me, however, was the selection of music. At both concerts, the music had been hand-picked by the artists, reflecting their extremely personal tastes. And one must admit, it was a handsome display of riches.

As one of the fundraisers for the national tour of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, members of the chorus who also play musical instruments offered to put on a nonvocal concert. The evening was intriguing, containing works ranging from Vivaldi to Rachmaninoff; from Chopin to Frank Zappa. The talent onstage ranged from classical guitar to harpsichord and piano.



June 7: the date for the next concert of Chanticleer — The program: music of the Renaissance and Middle Ages. CHANTICLEER: (Foreground) Louis Botto, Sanford Dole, Rob Bell. (Background) Tom Hart, Kevin Freeman, Tim Gibler, Neal Rogers, Jonathan Klein, Randy Wong, Ted Bakkila.

But it was the repertoire which astounded me. Karl Brown shyly approached the piano and proceeded to stun the audience with Henry Cowell's **The Tides of Manaunaun**, painting a visual picture of incredible strength. Terry Peterson did very well with Chopin's **Ballade in G Minor**. As usual, the church's organ stole the show. It's easy to crack jokes about Gay men who really know how to pound the organ. But the breadth of music chosen by Larry Whitlock, Don Frueh and Robert Erickson to be performed was a knockout. Frueh scored a major coup with Simon Preston's **Alleluyas**. Larry Whitlock had opened the program with a strong rendition of Bach's **Passacaglia in C Minor**, and closed the first act with Charles-Marie Widor's **Toccata from Symphony No. 5** (making me want to grab my figure skates and hit the ice).

A duet for organ and harpsichord by Antonio Soler was an interesting choice. Erickson closed the concert triumphantly with Max Reger's **Introduction and Passacaglia.**

The following evening I attended a concert by a vocal group called CHANTICLEER. It is a men's vocal group (mostly Gay) which offers a wide-ranging repertoire of Gregorian chants, medieval music, spirituals, barbershop quartets, and popular folk tunes. Their arrangements are breathtaking, including some modern pieces that rival the Swingle Singers. And what a joy to hear such sterling countertenor singing from Randy Wong, Rob Bell and Louis Botto!!

The group has been lucky enough to come under the management of Columbia Artists, which will present them in 82 community concerts around the nation next season. This summer they are the only group from California participating in the International Fortnight of Music Competition in Brugges, Belgium, in addition to performing in England, Holland, Belgium and France.

CHANTICLEER offers an unusually focused sound; 12 strong voices blending into a unique ensemble. They will be performing on Sunday, June 7, at St. Mary's Cathedral, offering the program of music from the Middle Ages and Renaissance periods which they will perform at the international competition in July. Plan to attend "SUMER IS ICUMEN IN" for a rare treat.

Because of the massive support garnered for the national tour of the Gay Men's Chorus, CHANTICLEER has received far less attention. They desperately need help to fund their trip abroad. If you would like to support an outstanding group of musicians (most of whom are Gay) and help them show European music lovers just what we mean by "a San Francisco treat," send a tax-deductible contribution to Westboro Music Festival, Inc., c/o CHANTICLEER, 1031 Leavenworth #10, San Francisco, CA 94109. ■

Golden Gate Performing Arts Major Donors Drive

Golden Gate Performing Arts seeks to raise $30,000 in support of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Chorus, and Lambda Pro Musica during May and June through a Major Donors Drive.

Through personal contacts and mail solicitation, friends of the choruses and orchestra will be contacted to contribute $100 or more in support of music by Gay musicians in San Francisco. Contributors will become charter associates of the Golden Gate Performing Arts Association.

In addition to having their names engraved on a plaque to be placed in a future Gay performing arts building, all charter associates will receive other benefits according to their level of contribution. Those who are major donors will receive priority seating at the Gay Pride Concert at Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall on June 26 with the purchase of tickets. GGPA hopes to build the largest organization supporting Gay performing groups in the United States.

All contributions are tax deductible as Golden Gate Performing Arts is a non-profit, tax-exempt public corporation as provided by section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Prospective donors can contact GGPA at P.O. Box 14665, San Francisco, 94114 to telephone 864-0326.

NEWSBOY — Theatre Rhinoceros Summer Fare

Theatre Rhinoceros announced as its summer production Arch Brown's NEWSBOY, opening Thursday, June 11, at the Goodman Building, 1115 Geary (at Van Ness) and continuing Thursdays through Sundays at 8:30 through July 25. Reservations may be made by calling the box office at 776-1848.

NEWSBOY is a love story set against the current political climate. Arch Brown, the playwright, is perhaps best known as a filmmaker. Directing the Rhino production is Allan Estes, artistic director of the Gay theater company. Featured in the cast are Thomas-Mark, Curt Crider, Duane Cropper, Christian Haren, Chip Stewart, and Jordan Lee.

Don't miss this romantic comedy that the *Washington Post* called "wickedly witty."

Sylvester on TV

Sylvester fans will be happy to know that KSTS-TV Channel 48 will run the 4th Annual Bay Area Music Awards show (the BAMies). The new station will air his performance Sunday, May 31, at 8pm.

San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus
TOURS AMERICA '81

Bon Voyage Premieres!



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Premiere Party
New Stereo Record Album
Friday, May 29, 9:00 pm
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AMERICAN TOUR PREMIERE!
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Thursday, June 4, 8:00 pm
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Rave reviews for musical excellence from Chronicle, Examiner and Oakland Tribune critics.
Bravos! from gay audiences everywhere, moved by the Chorus's powerful message of pride.

Design: The Duck House Group

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THE BLUES BROTHERS BAND
Written by DAN AYKROYD and JOHN LANDIS
Executive Producer BERNIE BRILLSTEIN
Produced by ROBERT K. WEISS · Directed by JOHN LANDIS
Read the PERIGEE Book, "BLUES BROTHERS: PRIVATE"
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Produced by HOWARD BROWN
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Stage: 'A CHORUS LINE' RETURNS

Its Intimacy and Vitality Intact

by Mark Topkin



A CHORUS LINE . . . latest cast — auditions will be held May 26, 11 am, at the Curran Theatre.

I'll assume you've all seen A CHORUS LINE at least once. (If not, turn in your Jaguar Bookstore membership because your sexual preference is now suspect.) This was my fifth or maybe sixth viewing of it, and I'm still amazed at the show's vitality and intimacy.

I was stricken, this time around, by the simplicity of the show. It has virtually no set, only one continuous scene and only one costume change. If there ever was an example of less being more, A CHORUS LINE is it, for out of the simplicity comes an intimacy that few, if any, musicals have managed. Seventeen characters — people — some of whom are destined to become as memorable as Tevye or Auntie Mame, tell us about the special moments of their lives.

No one is likely to forget Paul sharing the moment when his parents discovered he was working in a drag show, or Cassie's plea to start over in the chorus because she needs a job, or Bobby from Buffalo's lament that committing suicide there would have been, for him, redundant. Images of Val extolling the virtues of her corrective surgery, of Gregory discovering his homosexuality, of Diana in acting class at the High School for Performing Arts are images of **real** people, and because of that reality we can't help but be captured by them. When only eight are finally chosen for the chorus line, we share their joy, but we also share the disappointment of those who lost out. It is not often that an audience gets such a wealth of characters with whom they can not only relate but empathize. It's catharsis for days!

It is the vitality of this particular company, full of strong dancers and actors, that kept this show fresh for me after so many viewings. There is precision and discipline in their every step, creating a flow — a line, if you will — that is maintained throughout the entire intermissionless performance. Individual moments shine, but never overshadow the collective whole. The dancing of Michael Steuber as Mark, the exuberant neophyte from Tempe, Arizona, and of Scott Plank as Larry, the assistant choreographer (an all-around stunning specimen of malehood), and the acting of Matt West as Bobby all stood out but remained well within the boundaries of their characters.

A CHORUS LINE has been so successful, I think, because it focuses not on a single star or on just its songs or its story, but instead on itself as a unified entity. More and more I am coming to believe that an expertise in blending and merging song and story is what it takes to make a musical great (cf. also SWEENEY TODD). A CHORUS LINE does exactly that, and in an ingratiating style all its own. I'm sure it will return again and again in the years to come, and I look forward to each visit with the greatest of pleasure. ■

Parade Benefits

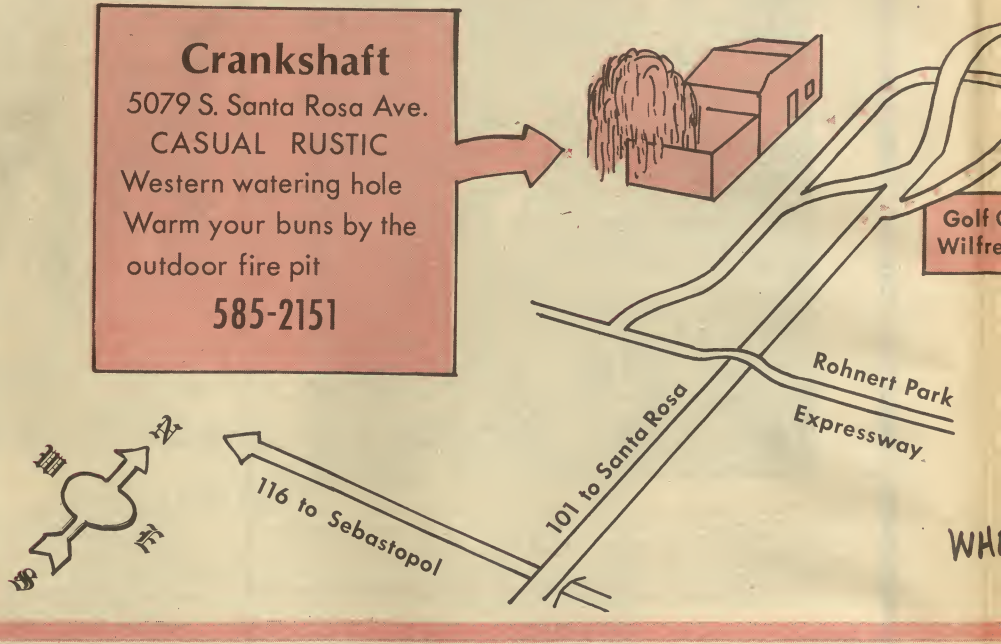
"Bottom Line" — a benefit for the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Committee producing this year's parade June 28, will be held at Trocadero Transfer Friday, June 5. Tickets are $10 at the door and 2-for-1 coupons are also being distributed at various locations. Lime, a number one disco group with the song "Your Love (Is Ever-Changing)" will provide a set of entertainment.

544 Natoma (Art Gallery) will hold a benefit art auction for the Parade Committee Thursday, May 28, 7-9pm, offering hors d'oeuvres and no host bar, entertainment at 8pm. Photographs, art objects, crafts and surprises provided by Bay Area artists will be auctioned as part of a theater piece, describes coordinator Peter Hartman (621-2683). Donation $5. The gallery is located between 6th and 7th, Mission and Howard Streets, and is planning several benefits for the Parade.

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WH

CLUB:

Savoy Tivoli Reborn

by John F. Karr

There was a time when upper Grant Street was the hottest and most chic Gay center. With the Cockettes appearing at the Palace, just across the square, and the Capri offering torrid behavior and rowdy times, the Gay life of North Beach boomed. Most sophisticated watering hole on the strip was, of course, the Savoy-Tivoli. The bar was glamorous, the restaurant a dream of Hollywood nights in the 1920's. And behind the restaurant was the coziest little cabaret. Paneled in wood, no bigger than your living room, and housing a wondrous piano that had keyboards at both ends, it was the place to be. Mona Mandrake appeared here, and this room housed the first edition of **Beach Blanket Babylon**.

But times change, and the Gay life left upper Grant. The rhapsodous restaurant in the Savoy has been replaced by a clangorous cafe, and until last weekend the cozy cabaret housed punk-rock bands.

Wonder of wonders — two enterprising young producers are reclaiming the Savoy's cabaret, and thrown the punk groups out. The cabaret is not as small as it once was. Remodeling has tripled the size, and some of the intimacy has been lost. A little decorating will help that, and the entertainment planned for the Savoy will keep the place packed. More important, the cabaret tradition has returned to North Beach, and the Savoy's newest incarnation is to be welcomed with huzzahs.

The same excitement that greets the room itself carries right over to the performers, for the Savoy is starting right at the top. Opening night featured top of the favorite list comic Michael Pritchard and Entertainer of the Year, Sharon McNight. This was Sharon's last dates several months of touring, and she gave a rousing farewell. Glamorously clad in a voluptuous Sophie Tucker gown, all hips and breasts, and sparkling with jet bugles, Sharon reminded us again that she's "The Last of the Red Hot Mommas": "When I kiss a man I burn his pucker right out," she confided.

The wonders of her country music followed, and if there was a slightly disparate air between her dress and her music, it didn't affect the affectionate audience. She sang both sides of her forthcoming single, and then slayed us all with a smashing "Some of These Days." Her encore, appropriately, was "Don't Forget Me," and even though she won't be back until August 15, there's no chance that such a plea is even necessary.



Shelley Werk as Ann Miller reopening North Beach's Savoy Tivoli show room.

★ ★ ★

Shelley Werk returned to San Francisco for Monday and Tuesday at the Savoy, bringing the loony, laugh-filled act she's perfected since leaving **Beach Blanket Babylon Goes to the Stars** some time ago. I have never in my life seen an act with more contents. Shelley's got three hours of material crammed into one breakneck hour, and seems to be in a race with herself to finish it. A little grace wouldn't hurt this show, but Shelley's manic glee is wonderful. She races through racist jokes, "The Masochism Tango," an operatic cadenza topped by a burp, Christina Crawford vowing "She's my mother; I love her," Ethel Merman selling hearing aids, Anne Miller tapping out an hysterical autobiography, Deborah Harry and an incredible Liza Minnelli. She capped the whole whirlwind with "That's Entertainment," and although it's an easy out for a reviewer, it's true when I say: Shelley Werk? That's Entertainment.

No doubt Shelley will be back, so watch Monday night schedules and catch this laugh dynamo soon. In the meantime the bill is no slouch. May 22 brings in Nicholas, Glover & Wray; May 23 features the duets of Patty Wolfe and Scott Phillips. Sunday afternoon has a classical concert with Kate Rowland. Acapella Gold, a richly textured jazz harmony group stars on May 27. Ruth Hastings appears in June, and a Gull musical opens then, too.

So it's obvious that the Savoy will offer only the best. The comfort of the room, an excellent schedule and the joys of a night on upper Grant all make a visit to the new Savoy-Tivoli Nightclub a longed-for event. I couldn't be happier to welcome this "new" club onto the scene.

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With a look somewhat insipid
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— by Woolly

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FILM CLIPS

Happy Birthday To Me and Take This Job and Shove It

MICHAEL LASKY

The Party's Over Before It Starts

You know when an advertisement for a movie features a shish-kabab skewer as a murder weapon and a promise of at least six lurid murders it will be an easy picture for a reviewer to roast. HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME *(Cinema 21)* is just such a picture, a cheap exploitative horror picture about a girl who, after an accident, has traumatic blackouts and wakes up to find murder on her doorstep. Other than the gimmicky murders which the camera is eager to linger around for the ensuing bloodbath, the picture has absolutely nothing of interest. It stars Melissa Sue Anderson (of "Little House on the Prairie" fame) and Glenn Ford and its only socially redeeming feature is that it gave employment to a lot of young out-of-work actors.

And believe me, with a script like they had, working on HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME must have been some job. If they didn't need the money or the credit, they should have told Columbia Pictures to TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVE IT *(Alhambra)* which happens to be the title of another middle American drive-in movie epic that has only one thing going for it — a country-western soundtrack.

Based on the hit song by David Allen Coe sung by Johnny Paycheck, this tawdry, rather frighteningly accurate depiction about Dubuque, Iowa, brewery workers vs. big business will probably be a big hit outside of big cities and at roofless theaters; but as for San Francisco, there is nothing for us to identify with here. Take some beer-bellied factory workers with grey lives, add a dose of meddling big business takeover, a mud fight, a beer bust, a dash of simpleton romance, and some good country music — available on a more bearable soundtrack record — and you've got a 100-minute movie loosely based on a 3-minute song.

Starring Robert Hays (of AIRPLANE fame) Art Carney, Eddie Albert and Martin Mull, among others, TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVE IT was directed by a former Broadway dancer, Gus Trikonis, who might still be able to get his legs in the air but can't get the film out of first position.

★ ★ ★

THE FAN (at the Alhambra Theatre) stars Lauren Bacall as an aging musical comedy star whose life is threatened by an avid fan when her secretary Maureen Stapleton doesn't send the right photos of his idol. The film is being soft-pedalled by Paramount Pictures because they say people might think there is some cheap exploitation connection to the John Lennon murder.

The film can stand on its own without Paramount putting far-fetched ideas into our heads. See it because Lauren Bacall gets some bitchy lines, does a musical production number, and because Maureen Stapleton gets a chance to shine as well. And for an even more enjoyable time get the novel, comprised entirely of letters, written by Bob Randall (Warner Books, $2.75). ■



Michael Biehn (with Lauren Bacall and Maureen Stapleton) stars in THE FAN.



Brewery workers discuss impending layoffs during a pool game. From TAKE THIS JOB AND SHOVE IT (L to R) David Keith, Robert Hays, and Tim Thomerson.



Melissa Sue Anderson reconstructs her past with Glenn Ford, who plays her psychiatrist, in thriller HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ME.

OUTWARD BOUND

"Out of the closet," was the first battlecry
"Out of the ghetto," was next
"Out of this world," is the last natural high
Before dropping out of context.

— by Woolly

TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE
TONE DEAF TONE DEAF TONE

Sweet Soul Music

JERRY DE GRACIA

Every Which Way But Loose. . .

Black recording artists who have consistently influenced the development of rock music or at least coexisted with its unpredictable twists and turns, have within the past few years been struggling to find a new niche in that ever changing market.

With the demise of "processed" disco music which anybody of any color was creating, rhythm and blues and soul musicians and singers are groping with the task of writing and recording music that is both marketable and right for them.

Unfortunately, there seems to be a greater fear among Black artists of slipping, and this recording industry paranoia seems to hamper their willingness to be innovative. Even the die-hard heavy metal groups seem to have somewhat acquiesced to the changes in 1980 rock music.

Grace Jones may be the exception to the rule, having recorded a rock album and flavored her appearance with a new wave style. She may even get the hang of it yet.

I may not be Black (except of humor and heart) but I must confess to spending a disproportionate amount of money on "soul" music back when it was hot (circa 1960's) and when rhythm and blues was just that. Today too many Black artists are not venturing into new forms of music because they are afraid of losing their audience. OK, fine. But creativity involves risks and doing the same old things for the same old people gets real tired.



Sharon Redd, disco star seeking to break new ground.

SHARON REDD AT THE GALLERIA

"There's a fear in the artist who wants to evolve, to move on from disco" according to former Harlette Sharon Redd. "The artist is afraid of losing his or her audience."

Topping off her San Francisco appearances at the Galleria party May 23, Ms. Redd said that "there will always be discos and disco music as long as there are poppers." Now on her own, having left the Harlettes and Bette Midler for her own career, she has been doing quite well in the City's discos with her single "Can You Handle It."

Crediting Gay fans with being not only receptive but very loyal, she would like to be able to do a show that was totally demented. "I want to bring out the Lily Tomlin in me," she said. Having gone through discos to get over in the market, Ms. Redd said she would eventually like to do more "laid back" stuff but added that disco music is "me, too."

Just like the artist gets older and grows musically, so does his fans she surmised. Both have to be receptive to changes.

SYLVESTER AT THE BOARDING HOUSE

San Francisco singer/songwriter Sylvester, who has been joining Sharon Redd in her local shows, is now going through a period of change which is reflected in his newly released album.

Having reached stardom on the disco bandwagon with hits like "You Make Me Feel Mighty Real" and "Dance Disco Heat," he has taken a turn in his career with the release of "Too Hot To Sleep."

He plans to weave his new songs into his cabaret act at the Boarding House which runs June 3 through 6.

Most of the new songs on the album have a jazz/blues influence with Sylvester singing in his natural voice rather than the falsetto that carried him to fame. Singing ballads is not a new style for him he said, but most of his fans are not familiar with that side of his artistry.

He is not sweeping the old image under the rug; he is just progressing musically in another direction although he isn't certain where it will lead. The songs on the new album are primarily low-key love songs and are a pleasant surprise considering the intensity of his disco hits.

Although he isn't sure of the image he wants to create for the new Sylvester, he said he definitely won't be walking on stage in a three-piece suit and imitating the chauvinism of Teddy Pendergrass. Whatever look he comes up with, he added, will be ready for opening night.

The emphasis on a mellower sound represents not only a change for Sylvester musically but also on a personal level . . . and, although he isn't sure where that is leading, it is still based on his motto for living, "doing what you like (musically and personally)."

The music off his new release, which includes the single "Here Is My Love," is the type of music he personally listens to and enjoys, such as Norman Connors and Teddy Pendergrass, although he can't just sit back and enjoy his own work because he's always judging it. The new album puts him on the level of Connors and Pendergrass.

He is concerned about the reaction to the new album. Although he is secure about himself, he isn't sure how his

(Continued on next page)

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George Sanders
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and, the attractive Hunky who introduced himself — bought me a drink — escorted me home AND "topped" off a perfectly glorious day.

**P.S. — I Love You!!*

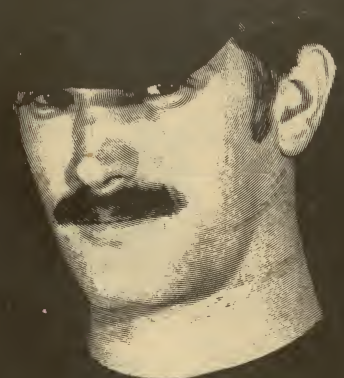
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TONE DEAF *(Continued)*



Sylvester's latest publicity shot — going through another change.

fans will react to this change of style and the Boarding House show will be somewhat of a test for audience response.

Hoping to take the show on tour, Sylvester said that what works in the show will stay in and what doesn't work will get fixed. Having been a cabaret singer most of his career, he is anxious to get back to that level of intimacy with his audience as opposed to doing big production concerts which do not allow for audience interaction.

Sylvester emphasized that the Gay press, more so than the straight press, has often pressured him into a spokesman-like role but that music is why he's doing what he's doing and aside from that his personal life is his own. ■

OFF THE RECORD

Gay Music for Happy People:

0 & Brian Damage by Brian Briggs *(Bearsville Records)*

This album is an exercise in having fun with music, not taking life too seriously, if at all, and showing people that not all good music is going to make *Billboard's* top 100 or the local punk top 10 as espoused in Xerox copies of such lists found on the floor of local records shops.

Side 1's "Nervous Breakdown" is the most eligible candidate for popular appeal, but the entire album is worth a listen.

I mean, with back-up vocals by Patty Cakes, how could you go wrong. Nothing on this album is going to make you reflect on the meaning of life, nor will it shater your eardrums, but at the same time you just don't sit still as Briggs winds his way through a clever and precise musical interlude which extends from the comical "See You On The Other Side" to the meditative "AEO" Parts I and II.

Money Saving Tip:

Sleeze Attack by Canye Phuckem and Howe *(More Best Music)*

Do people **really** do these things? No, not the "dirty" sex . . . but, do people **really** go through the effort of producing an album that truly sucks. The humor misses along with the music. I would go into the subject deeper, but you can judge by the names of the songs.



The Screaming Memes

Side One includes: One Sir, Thank You Sir • Folsom Street • In A Sling • The Whip Song • Warm Wet Feeling • This Guy's The Limit.

Side Two is worse with such memory-makers as: Sleaze Attack • Castroids vs. Smarkets • Left Pocket, Right Pocket • A Night At The Orgy • Woof, Woof, Oink Oink.

The titles are actually the most creative thing on the album, and the entire concept makes you want to send your black leather jacket to the cleaners, in hopes that it will be lost, so you can claim some compensation for the night you went to the Cave and bought this album. By the way, the album notes say the musicians preferred to remain anonymous . . . and understandably so.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

The new issue of *Musician* magazine reports that John Travolta has signed to play Jim Morrison in a film version of the best selling biography *"No One Here Gets Out Alive"* with Marlon Brando possibly in a cameo as the Lizard King's father. Lily Tomlin would be my choice. After all, she's a Travolta look-alike and far more talented.

SWEDISH MEATBALLS

Musician magazine also reports that Abba, the Swedish musical conglomerate, is placing stock in their company, Stockholm Badus, on the Swedish stock exchange in March. By 1982 shares will be available also on the London and New York exchanges.

What we need for this country is a punk band called Merrill Lynch; it would simplify the entire matter, and I'm a great believer in killing two birds with one groan.

COMING EVENTS

May 20-23: Steve Landesberg at the Boarding House

May 22: Judas Priest/Gamma at Oakland Arena

May 22-23: Garland Jeffreys/The Rumor at the Old Waldorf

May 23-24: UC Berkeley Jazz Festival in Hearst Greek Theater

May 24: The Gap Band/Yarbrough & Peoples at Concord Pavilion

May 25: Duck's Breath Mystery Theater at Julia Morgan Center - Berkeley ; Waylon Jennings at Salinas Rodeo Fairgrounds

May 27-29: The Fifth Dimension at the Fairmont Hotel

May 29: Margie Adam at College of Marin

May 29-30: Smokey Robinson at the Circle Star Theater

May 30: Kool Jazz Festival at Oakland Coliseum Stadium

June 2-14: Anita O'Day at the Plush Room

June 3: Cleo Laine/James Galway at Concord Pavilion

Jerry De Gracia

Ammiano Debt Party

Former school board candidate Tom Ammiano will be hosting a debt retirement party at the Zuni Cafe, 1658 Market Street, on Monday, June 1st, from 5:30 to 9pm. Ammiano, who is leader of the Gay Teachers Coalition and Chair of the school dis-tri

and Chair of the school district's Advisory Council on Sex Education, was recently appointed to the West Bay Health Systems Citizens Advisory Board.

TALES OF TESSI TURA

Pippin's Pocket Opera

Nickel and Dime Fare Yields Big Dividends

GEORGE HEYMONT

As spring unfolds before us an axiom as old as time repeats itself over and over again. Burrowing through an Easter basket in a frenzy of childish glee, I found one small chocolate egg that had a soft, creamy bittersweet filling. A few nights later I stood in a locker room watching in awe as a rather small young man in baggy painter's pants began to disrobe. He wore a plaid shirt at least a size larger than his body's contours. As he slowly unbuttoned the front of this abandoned gunnysack he exposed a tight, trim chest with a deep sensuous tan. Loosening the rope he had used for a belt, he let his pants drop to the floor. Out stepped a lithe, wiry man with a dancer's body. I never got around to the bittersweet filling, but that boy's basket of Easter eggs was a triumph of deception. The same could be said for Pocket Opera: good things come in small packages.

Donald Pippin and his gang of cohorts have recently finished a series of performances at the On-Broadway Theatre. As is often the case, the repertoire is eclectic. Pippin's witty translations and drooling narrative puns throw egg on the faces of serious baroque enthusiasts. But one must realize that these court presentations were filled with legends of magical apparitions, howling demons, shipwrecks and unrequited love. They provided several hours of escapism for the royal court, luring the listeners to worlds of fantasy which could be as blue-blooded as the noblest kings and queens, or as peasantlike as their servants.

Pippin often boasts that Pocket Opera is able to include several magical apparitions which usually end up on the cutting floor in major opera companies. "In the twinkle of an eye, Pocket Opera spares you no expense as you are transported to a castle in the sky," he chortles to the utter glee of his adoring audience.

THE ADORATION OF THE MAGI

The loyalty and enthusiasm of Pippin's audiences are the key to his success. In a day and age when many people have been hard-pressed to pay up to $50 a night for a ticket to what Donald affectionately nicknames "the other company," Pocket Opera fans pay a top price of $8.50 and are rarely more than 100 feet from the stage. True, they are not receiving the benefits of full stage productions or international superstars. But in recent years one has noticed fewer international superstars who are consistently satisfying. If someone flubs a note at Pocket Opera, there is bound to be less resentment over hearing a human weakness than there is with a major operatic superstar (and they sing flat on plenty of nights, too). Set in a casual environment, Pocket Opera exists on a paraprofessional level. Yet their performances have been consistently pleasing — allowing audiences a good night out, a chance to hear some exotic repertoire (often some fine singing) and go home happy.

YENTAS IN BONDAGE

A good example is Pocket Opera's recent performance of Handel's **Julius Caesar**. I had recently seen the City Opera's production which is an acutely stylized version devised by Julius Rudel and Tito Capobianco back in the 1960's. Several arias were jockeyed in and out of position to serve the concept of that production. Pippin, however, unleashed a dramatic narrative which was outlandishly delightful, pungent in its theatrical insight, and at times had the audience in stitches. Sticking close to Handel's original scoring, the opera was sung almost entirely by women. (There are a few notable countertenors in the Bay area, but even with a sizable, diverse Gay community there seems to be a shortage of castrati these days.) Stephanie Friedman was radiant as Caesar. Francesca Howe, (the resident diva of Pocket Opera) hit an occasional strained note, but her wondrous sense of style always pulls her through an evening. Luana De Vol scored strongly as Sesto, Cornelia's militant son. Marcia Hunt took awhile to warm up as Cornelia. Whether she or Cleopatra caught a chill behind bars or in the seraglio is a moot point.



Pocket Opera's resident diva, soprano Francesca Howe, continues to charm local music lovers in a variety of roles ranging from Cleopatra to the Countess Almaviva.

Pocket Opera once again scooped the San Francisco Opera by giving audiences a bit of musical foreplay. In the Spring of 1982 Terry McEwen plans to present **Julius Caesar** with Tatiana Troyanos as Caesar and Valerie Masterson as Cleopatra. Those who caught Pippin's appetizer will arrive at the opera house well prepared for the feast of baroque joys when the main company raises the curtain on its first major production of **Julius Caesar**.

A CHERUB IN THE CLOSET

Pocket Opera's closing performance of **Marriage of Figaro** was an unmitigated triumph. The entire cast was having a blast performing the work. The postage-stamp stage at the On-Broadway heightened the intimacy of Da Ponte's scheming plot. Pippin's wonderful translation added the final touches to a superb evening.

Most impressive was the appearance of Kaaren Herr Erickson as Susanna. In the past year Erickson has undergone a stunning transformation. Her Susanna was aglow from beginning to end — beautifully sung and shimmering with the aura of an artist coming into maturity. Elwood Thornton and Francesca Howe were delightful as the Count and Countess. Both used their strong personalities to underline the tense interaction between the jealous husband and wife. Lawrence Venza and Kathleen Brown sang the roles of Figaro and Cherubino with an impish glee. Marcia Hunt was much stronger as Marcellina than she had been as Cornelia several weeks prior.

The irony of the affair is that Pocket Opera's performance of Mozart's work was so far superior to the leaden catastrophe mounted by Spring Opera Theatre that it was almost laughable. The difference in quality and audience satisfaction is a stiff reminder of the facts of life: It doesn't matter how big it is — what counts is if you know how to use it! Size versus performance. Take your pick.

SUMMER IS A-CUMMING

The San Francisco Opera is about to embark on its first summer international festival. The repertoire includes Ponnelle's exciting production of **Rigoletto**, the American premiere of Albert Reimann's **Lear** and Monteverdi's **L'Incoronazione di Poppea**. Also on the bill are a long overdue production of **Die Meistersinger von Nurnberg** (with Kurt Herbert Adler on the podium) and Mozart's **Don Giovanni**. There are a few international stars on the roster whose presence will incite audiences to race to the box office and plop down $42 for orchestra seats.

And once again, like David and Goliath, Pippin will be yapping at the tails of the main company. No sooner does the curtain fall on the summer festival at the opera house than Pocket Opera opens its summer season on Sunday, July 19, with Offen-

(Continued on Page 28)

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PHILIP CAMPBELL

Two Modern Composers

Most composers do not live to see successful performances of their works. It is even rarer for them to achieve any degree of popularity. There are exceptions, of course, and Bay Area audiences will be witness to two such examples over the next week and a half.

First in line will be the San Francisco Symphony's presentation of Carl Orff's immensely likable "Carmina Burana" (literally "Songs of Beuren").

Orff's creation has been a "hit" ever since its premiere 43 years ago. This is a big flashy choral work, filled with melody and visceral appeal. Based on some earthy poetry written by fallen away monks and rowdy students, "Carmina" has a theatrical flair that should make it an ideal choice for this season's finale.

The following Thursday, Davies Hall will play host to Kent Nagano conducting the Berkeley Symphony and Contra Costa Chorale in the west coast premiere of Olivier Messiaen's "Transfiguration of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

"Carmina Burana" is a lusty paean to secular pleasure. "Transfiguration" is a mystical work. Where Orff's music is readily accessible on an emotional level, Messiaen's is more cerebral and lofty, with a much more contemporary sound filled with mystery. Both compositions are masterworks in their own right. It will be interesting to compare the two concerts and savor each for their special rewards.

It is particularly noteworthy that Messiaen himself has come to California to supervise the preparation of his work. San Francisco may be provincial in some aspects, but when it comes to music and musicians, we are becoming "world class."

Maestro Walter Weller will be completing his two week guest stint with the S.F. Symphony when he takes the podium for "Carmina Burana." Based on his unusual and highly satisfactory performances last week, I am looking forward to his interpretation of Orff's "instant classic."

Weller proved to us that you **can** make a silk purse out of a sow's ear with a dramatically persuasive rendition of Alexander Glazunov's Symphony No. 5. This almost forgotten piece became a tuneful and exciting showstopper in Weller's confident hands. The orchestra responded with brilliant playing that only served to underscore the delightful sense of discovery. We were also treated to a suave and optimistic performance of Schubert's Symphony No. 4 (The Tragic). It was more rhythmic than tragic, and I found myself preferring the uptempo feeling.

Mr. Weller had opened the concert with a merry and reckless account of Dvorak's "Carnival Overture." It bordered on being noisy, but the brightness served to point out the improved acoustics of the hall. The new discs are in place and they do make a difference.

The Symphony season is coming to a colorful conclusion; still, music lovers will have a busy summer anyway. The Joffrey Ballet is coming to town and the massive Beethoven Festival is on the horizon. With Davies Hall looking and sounding better every day, we have a lot to look forward to. ■



Walter Weller, guest conductor for the SF Symphony's season finale.

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Stage:
THE GREAT AMERICAN RASCAL

by Mark Topkin

If your magazine subscription list includes the likes of *The Saturday Review* and others that cater to the literary intelligentsia, then the name H.L. Mencken needs no introduction. Others may recognize the name in association with occasional droll and pithy aphorisms of a political, social or religious nature that, with some frequency, pop up as leads and chapter headings in newspaper features and books. James L. Crowell's new play, **The Great American Rascal** may well be the vehicle that introduces a whole new generation to the man who for the first half of the 20th century dominated the American literary scene with his provocative, frequently controversial prose and his support, via his magazine, *The American Mercury*, for writers of a similar ilk.



Dean Goodman (R) plays to Sara Heart (L) in THE GREAT AMERICAN RASCAL.

The play takes place in 1926 and concerns the true incident of Mencken's arrest in Boston on a charge of peddling obscene literature made by an overzealous Reverend and self-proclaimed literary censor. This is basically a First Amendment courtroom drama with overtones of church-state separation, but **The Great American Rascal** is by no means a heavy, ponderous play. Crowell's script is tight and theatrical and full of rich characterizations not the least of which is Mencken himself: sharp-tongued, quick-witted and determined. The courtroom arguments are sharply drawn — the Reverend Chase is a formidable opponent for Mencken — and the conclusion is thoroughly satisying. Though the play is long, it never once drags or wanders; it is masterfully crafted.

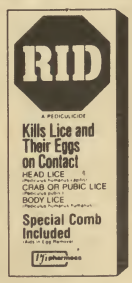
The performances match the high quality of the script. Dean Goodman is splendidly cast as Mencken, delivering his barbs and banter with self-assured elitism, but showing as well Mencken's soft and vulnerable sides. As his attorney, Arthur Garfield Hays, Gary Pettinger cuts a presence of confidence and competence making Hays one of the most likable high-power attorneys I've ever encountered. Marion Eaton is endearingly strong as Sara Haart, Mencken's woman friend, and Glen Perkins is deliciously irksome as the too-right Reverend Chase. All members of the supporting cast are equally strong and are well paced and clearly defined by director William Kritzberg.

The Great American Rascal is playing at Theatre 2000, 1133 Mission St. Call 431-7195 or 626-9169 for more information. It's a wonderful play: funny, provocative, excellently mounted and certainly reaffirming of H.L. Mencken's status in American literary and social history. ■

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Stage:

FEFU AND HER FRIENDS

by Dan Turner

Maria Irene Fornes has written a play for eight women. That is what is fun. The only reference to men is when they are pointed to with a gun off stage. The main character, Fefu, who is giving the party, is never sure when the gun is loaded or unloaded.

The play has some of the chic of that other play with all women called THE WOMEN, and is set in New England in the spring of 1935 with the same "We're all kept, and don't give a damn about the Depression" feeling. These women are pretending to care about certain social issues when, in fact, they only really care about their own.

Fornes had added a unique theatrical element. The audience is divided into four groups in Part II and each group witnesses four intimate scenes in a different sequence. Dramatically, this involves the audience in what would otherwise be an abstract drawing room comedy in the manner of Ronald Firbank, English aesthete.

The play leaves impressions of women — their laughter, their folly, their frolic, their unsolved passions — in a kind of murder mystery. It is as if Agatha Christie were to write like Oscar Wilde. Although both would have plotted better, there is still a detective and a satirist at work. The very way the audience is led from room to room in Fefu's house is like playing the game CLUE. You keep asking yourself, "Who did it?" The "what" of the crime never seems to really matter.

One of the women, Julia, thinks that she has been shot. It is really all in her head, or is it — well, anyway at the end — no, I won't tell you.

Leslie Harrell crackles with a Hepburn voice and turn of the jaw (she would be a good contender for one of those biographical films). Her entrance in a wheelchair and soliloquy in bed, among other moments, are piquant and surprising. She fascinates as Julia.

Linda Hoy, as Fefu, is an amiable, if dotty, hostess, and mischievous beyond comparison. She also uses her eyes to tell of other things and keeps the other women going like a comforting household clock.

Julie Hebert bewitches as Emma. Looking like she stepped out of a book of photographs by Hurrel, this dark-eyed siren does an exotic, sensual dance in salmon pink. Her character becomes the focus of romance.

Mary Jo Pearson is the original Vogue model, as Cecilia, the icy, society Lesbian. She is taut and beautiful — like marble — the room drops fifty degrees when she makes an entrance, and yet, Rise Walter, as Paula, can glow like a hot coal in her presence.

Lorri Holt-Le-Grand comes the closest to maintaining the disbelief of the audience. She seems to be saying, "How did I get stuck in this world?" It is filled with flowers and fine clothes. As Christina, she has the aura of the playwright about her. The gun is real to her — and the satin wallpaper is not. We hear her speaking French in the library, but it is her questioning that is most French.

Vivian Altmann gives answers as Fefu's friend, Cindy. She explains the life of manners and idle grace as a joke from *Town and Country*.

Charlotte J. Colavin does the cooking like Spring Byington — lots of bubbles and cinnamon. It is doubtful that the other women cook as well as Sue.

My impressions of Fornes' play are varied, but by its very structure of repeating sequences, I would say that one message is that women of this period were born to keep repeating the same scenes. There are those who still do, of course. It is one reason why Gay men think that life should be so easy. You see, sitting around gossiping and spraying each other with water, is what many of us do.

By showing us what women were like in the 30's, we get a sense of what we would prefer today. Do we really want the responsibility for a gun going off?

Alma Becker directs FEFU AND HER FRIENDS and what an undertaking! It is a complicated show of patterns and artfully and engagingly executed. FEFU continues at the Eureka Theatre Thursday through Sunday evenings at 8pm through June 13. ■



Eureka Theatre's latest, FEFU AND HER FRIENDS through June 13.

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Stage:

THE FEEDING

Cynical Drama at the Magic Theatre

by Mark Topkin



(L to R) Philip Howitz, Lisa Soloway, and Will Capps in Magic Theatre's THE FEEDING, through May 24.

THE FEEDING, I think, is a much better play than is at first apparent in its Magic Theatre production. With a stronger cast and tighter direction, this contemporary tale of life in Silicon Valley could emerge as a scathing portrait of personal and familial destruction in the wake of obsessive technological research and advancement. Even with its production faults, however, Pat Pfeiffer's play is an intriguing evening of theater.

It is 1980, and Dr. Karl Swenson is desperately close to discovering a formula to create low-heat energy. During his years of research, however, he has alienated himself from his wife, family and friends through his devotion to work as well as to a thoroughly scientific, unemotional life perspective. There is a solution to every problem, Dr. Swenson believes, but when it comes to dealing with people around him, he is blind to the problem.

Karl's alcoholic wife is having an affair with his boss. His older son is into drugs, dirt and rock and roll. His two younger children are keeping a pet snake and raising mice to feed it, while, aided and abetted by the boss's son, Todd, they play cruel and sometimes dangerous pranks on each other and on the members of the household, notably their God-fearing, cleanliness-obsessed grandmother.

Karl's household is full of individuals looking out only for themselves. Each person seeks control of the others, and every communication is designed to that end. No one feels; everyone thinks about getting their own way and, wittingly or unwittingly, like the snake feeds on the mice, everyone feeds on each other.

Needless to say there is a lot of cynicism in THE FEEDING, too much of it, unfortunately played in a low key. Perhaps we're too accustomed to the VIRGINIA WOOLF



(L to R) J. E. Freeman and David Sterry in THE FEEDING.

discord to be able to swallow cynicism without hystrionics. Nonetheless, I found myself putting more energy into the

A contemporary tale of life in Silicon Valley.

script than the actors were, and that's not my job. Not that the performances are bad; they're not. They're just not finely tuned. Focus is lost, and intentions are sometimes too obscure.

Still, THE FEEDING touches a timely theme: the further alienation of humanity from itself as it becomes ever more technologically obsessed. It is a glimpse into the future that is already upon us.

The play runs through May 24 at the Magic Theatre, Fort Mason. Call 441-8822 for information and reservations. ■

TALES OF TESSI TURA

(Continued from Page 25)

bach's **La Vie Parisienne** (which will be repeated on August 2). The repertoire includes two performances of **La Belle Helene**, Smetana's **The Two Widows**, Moussorgsky's **The Marriage**, and a revival of Pippin's wonderful production of **Marriage of Figaro**. Of special interest are performances of Mozart's **Bastien and Bastienne** and two Handel operas: **Semele** and **Acis and Galatea**. Pippin's season concludes on September 20 with another one of his uproarious galas: **The Pick of the Pockets**. Performances are on Sunday nights at 7:30 and offer a lovely way to spend a summer evening. I highly recommend checking out this company. If nothing else, you'll get your money's worth. ■

George Heymont



Pocket Opera's production of MARRIAGE OF FIGARO achieved a great deal of its momentum from the stunning work of soprano Kaaren Herr Erickson as Susanna.

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Book Review:

Human Warmth and Other Stories

by Daniel Curzon

In his prefatory remarks to his new collection Dan Curzon attempts to explain and defend his work. Most of his statements are to me disjointed and apologetic and do not deserve further comment. The strongest statement in the preface is that this collection is more compassionate that his previous work. This leaps out at the reader for two reasons; one being that it is reprinted on the back cover of the book, so that when you read the preface the statement is read again, thereby giving it added emphasis; secondly, the title "Human Warmth" leads to further expectations of a satisfying emotional experience.

Well, after reading and rereading each of these stories, I am unable to perceive any compassion or insight in these pages, though many of them do cry out for sympathy.

The cast of characters consists of people (some Gay, some straight) who are unable to articulate their own experience or to comprehend why life happens to them in a way beyond their control. Lost in some sub-libidinous limbo they simply thrash, roll and wrestle with their "feelings," only to keep having more "feelings" as inchoate and unmanageable as the previous ones.

There is no cohesive or articulate analysis or probing of the characters and their lives. The reader is left with a feeling of having been exploited for cheap emotions and is left wondering what the author had in mind, what he hoped to communicate and to what purpose.

The prose is superficial and poorly detailed, consisting largely of extremely banal dialogue and equally banal interior musings.

The ample room left for deeper delineation of plot and character is always passed over in favor of obvious, rushed, cliched and sometimes even implausible endings.

The scent of barely disguised autobiography hangs thickly over these stories.

The author has published three novels, one previous collection of short stories and thinks of himself as an important Gay writer. I find it shocking that he considers these pieces to be worthy of attention in their, to me, barely finished state. If he ever hopes to have a larger audience then he must certainly be more patient with his work and really bring it to a well-crafted state of emotional and intellectual truth. ■

Fred Sclofani

BOOK RACK

FRANK HOWELL

Walt Whitman: A Life

by Justin Kaplan
Simon & Schuster - $15.00

The Gayness Still Under A Veil

Whenever we think of Whitman we usually conjure up the image of a faded volume of *"Leaves of Grass."* But there was more to the man than mere poetry. As Kaplan convincingly demonstrates, Whitman ripped across the literary landscape as the first authentic voice of America as a place that was distinctly different from the European scene. The democratic man in the street was finally expressing himself in a way that commanded attention. But Whitman lived a rather tacky life. He drifted from job to job and was indifferent to schedules. He dressed in a shabby, unconventional manner. His spirited songs of himself caused him to be thrown out the door by many an impatient employer. He served as editor of scores of small newspapers over the years.

Walt Whitman is of interest to Gays, of course, because of his homoerotic hymns to lusty male camaraderie. Many a censorship battle has been waged over *"Leaves of Grass."* Naturally the book was banned in Boston in 1881. Small wonder that such an event occurred in Victorian society with such lines as,

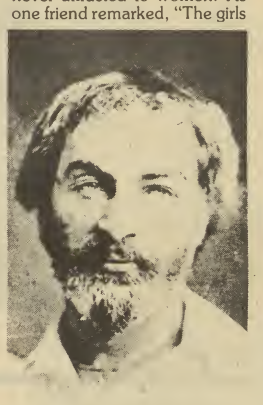
Without shame the man I like knows and avows the deliciousness of his sex, Without shame the woman I like knows and avows hers.

It is fashionable in our time to unearth long concealed secrets of the famous. Who was or was not a member of the sexual underground? Sometimes this process may not do justice to the chief accomplishments of the person in question. But in Whitman's case it is a central question to pursue since freedom and a celebration of the body were one of his main reasons for praising life.

Hints of manly love seep through as Kaplan explores Whitman's life, but our guide seems a trifle reluctant to pursue the issue to any meaningful conclusion. Otherwise, his research seems complete and rounded.

"Free love? Is there any other kind?"
--Walt Whitman

Evidence about his homosexuality seems to abound. Our sage of democracy never married. As he expressed it, "I am an old bachelor who never had a love affair." He was never attracted to women. As one friend remarked, "The girls did not seem to attract him. He did not specially go anywhere with them or show any extra fondness for their society, seemed, indeed, to shun it."



An early Walt Whitman

His short stories about young men in trouble reek with more than a little male-male affection. In "The Child's Champion" an adult man takes a 12 year old boy under his wing and into a warm, loving bed and kisses him. Kaplan tells us, ". . . his love for the boy grew not slack with time" (according to the short story).

In his old age Walt promised to reveal all the secrets of his inner life to Horace Traubel, an intimate friend, but these treasured revelations apparently never came about. This was in spite of Whitman's plea to Traubel to, "Be sure to write about me honest. Whatever you do, do not prettify me: include all the hells and damns."

His most loyal and persistent fans were the British intellectuals such as Oscar Wilde, Edmund Carpenter, and especially John Addington Symonds, who frequently hounded him about the Gay overtones of his poetry. This often irritated Walt and he became most defensive about the subject. (Symonds longed to hear stories about "athletic friendship.")

In his old age Whitman frantically attempted to edit or destroy any material in his papers that might unduly excite future historians. His closet door was cemented shut. The noted Whitman declaration, "Oh spontaneous me!" did not apply to his love for particular men, only mankind in general.

Whitman expresses much of what we feel about one another and the ways of life and nature and Kaplan captures the essence of the rapidly expanding 19th century New World in which Walt Whitman unfolded. Kaplan, author of *"Mr. Clemens and Mark Twain"* and *"Lincoln Steffens,"* brings us this world in a charming, appealing manner, but with a certain vague homophobia still flapping in the wind. ■

A British Entry

The Making of The Modern Homosexual

Edited by Kenneth Plummer
Barnes and Noble - $22.50

". . . The homosexual should be seen as playing a social role rather than as having a condition."

Over the years the bulk of scientific research on Gays has been pioneered by Americans such as Kinsey. But recently our British cousins have been tilling the fields. They have now published their thoughts, findings, and probing questions.

The style of writing is academic and rather dull and convoluted at times, but those intrigued by erudition and a sophisticated view of homosexuality will want to pursue the ideas developed here. One of the central ideas explored by Plummer is that some people bend toward Gayness whenever they are labeled as such by others. Plummer suggests that the categories assigned to Gays by society are more influential than the actual homophile behavior.

Historians who study the history of Gay culture will be drawn to articles dealing with how homosexuality evolved through the centuries.

Evidence indicates that obviously Gay sub-cultures did not appear until the latter part of the 17th century in Europe. The infamous Molly Clubs of London where nelly males cavorted were early examples of this type of coming out.

Homosexuality viewed as social pathology was formulated in the closing decades of the 19th century. During this time sexual attraction toward members of the same sex was considered hot stuff even for the medical profession. A Victorian physician, Sir George Savage, speculated in the *Journal of Mental Science* (1884) as to whether "this perversion is as rare as it appears." Before this time Gayness was considered a sinful, lust-ridden condition but not a sickness, that affected a small minority.

There are also chapters dealing with Lesbianism, transvestism, and transsexualism.

The final section concerning problems related to conducting research in Gay life is especially interesting. The point emphasized here is that values are always embedded in the problems we attempt to understand. There is no way objectivity can completely hold the upper hand in the research of human sexuality.

The volume concludes with a detailed bibliography of a "Select Guide to Research Sources." ■

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Closet Ball 1981. First the men appear as men — or however they conceive of masculinity . . . (Photo by Rink)



"Rose," one of the most popular contestants. In the men's segment she/he appeared in a baseball uniform. Rose is joined by her creator. (Photo by Rink)



An hour later they reappear as newly made women to the cheers and applause of the full house at the Japan Center Theatre. (Photo by Rink)



In the lobby at the Closet Ball . . . from Dolly Parton to Mrs. Pynchon and their leatherette admirers. (Photo by Rink)

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B.A.R.

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New Wave Publication Party

"Hot Off the Press!" will be an "unusual evening of performance, entertainment, and art in progress" to celebrate the publication of *Vortex #3*. The publication party and open studio for *Vortex*, to be June 3 at CNA Gallery (142 Fillmore St.). Mark Thompson, Camille O'Grady, Starhawk, Cornelia Reich, Tede Matthews, Paul E. Brown, Ginny Lloyd, and Sister Mary Media will be on hand.

Vortex: A Journal of New Vision is a noncommercial publication of new and dynamic contributions from Gay women, and alternative artists. The group's press release claims, "Already *Vortex* has established itself as a pioneering journal, exploring and documenting what is happening today in radical politics, spirituality, and art — all in a format that combines the written word with original and contemporary design."

The open studio on Wednesday, June 3, from 7 to 10pm will include art on display from *Vortex* contributors, special guests, and surprise entertainment. A donation of $2 will include a copy of the newly published *Vortex #3*. For more information contact Will Roscoe at 495-6267 (days) or 731-4503 (eves).

Book Signing at Walt Whitman

On Saturday, May 23, from 1 to 3pm Toby Marotta will be signing his new book, *"The Politics of Homosexuality,"* at the Walt Whitman Bookshop, 1412 Sutter St.

Williams on Van Ness

Suddenly Last Summer by Tennessee Williams is being presented the last two weekends in May.

Pacific Arts Theatre, which has Gay members, is producing the play at the Goodman Buidling (1115 Geary) at 8:30pm on Friday and Saturday. For information call 441-0978.

"Chorus Line" Auditions

Auditions for all companies of A CHORUS LINE are scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, at the Curran Theatre in San Francisco, according to director/choreographer Michael Bennett and the New York Shakespeare Festival.

Auditions begin at 11am for female members of Actors Equity Association, with an open call for girls at 12 noon.

BAY AREA REPORTER
GREATER BAY NEWS
AN JOSE SANTA CLARA CUPERTINO SUNNYVALE REDWOOD CITY PALO ALTO MONTEREY PLEASANT HILL VALLEJO BERKELEY WALNUT CREEK CAMPBELL FREMON

OAKLAND

NEZ PAS

VOX POPULI

Last Monday night, May 18 was the Mr. and Ms. Gay/Foxy Lady II of Alameda County. Press time necessitates postponing the complete coverage until next issue.

TRANSUBSTANTIATION

Now is the time for all good men to come to the aid of their party dresses! And make-up! And baubles, bangles, and beads!

Coming up Saturday, May 30, Lady Cha Cha presents Alameda County's Closet Ball No. I. This event, sponsored by A.C.I.E., will be held at Ollie's Radclyffe Hall, 4130 Telegraph, Oakland. Admission is $10 (contestant's entry fee included in this amount) and there will be a no-host bar. All proceeds will go to the A.C.I.E. Coronation Committee 1981.

If Cha Cha holds to the tradition of this kind of presentation, NO ONE will be allowed to enter who has been in drag before. Contestants will, I assume, be judged first on their "male" presentation, and then on their "drag" presentation. Entry blanks are available at most Gay bars in Alameda County.

ORCHIDACEXES

Mother's Day last, Shawn hosted his Levi-Leather-Lace candidate party (MR&MG/FL II A.C.) at Lancers. Yours truly, for one, received a personal invitation, and that was followed up with an almost-unheard-of-these-days "thank you" for attending! A real touch of class in my book!

Most all the candidates for Mr. & Ms. Gay/Foxy Lady II of Alameda County were there, and they were introduced to the capacious crowd.

An adequate buffet and champagne punch added to the aura of the festive event. Sweet Richard worked his buns off behind the bar and managed to keep everyone well supplied in the booze department.

Those attending belonging to the sovereignty included: Foxy Lady I, Queen of Hearts III, Ms. Fairy, Mayor Mary, and (can you believe it?!) Ms. Gay I, Lady Johnnie!

The door charge and monies from raffle tickets went towards the completion of Oakland's float entry in the Gay Parade, June 28.

MISCREANCE

What long-time "married" local couple about town appear to be going their separate ways lately? They have been witnessed doing their own things without the benefit of the other being around. Come on, now . . . one can be involved in just soooooooo many pool games!!!!!!

CARACOLEING SUPERFICES IN TOTO! (or, really stretching an old song title!)

The White Horse will start its "Lake Temescal Sunday Summer Festival" next month . . . Sunday, June 14, to be exact. (God's Hooks! That's my birthday!) The Horse will oepn its doors on Sundays at 12 noon to entice you coming back from or on your way to the lake (not Tahoe, hons!).

In the balmy Sunday evenings, you can enjoy the sounds of "Tropical Nights" from 6 to 10pm.

★ ★ ★

Revol will once again have its fabulous LUAU on Sunday, June 21, all day long. The brunch will feature an "Islander" special, and the outstanding luau buffet in the evening will star the roasted pig, steamed fish, lomi salmon, poi, and ALL THE TRIMMINGS, for just three bucks!

With Hagatha behind the bar, I'm sure there will be many exotic drink concocktions created for all the thirsty

(Continued on next page)

Martha Reeves at Ollie's



Martha Reeves & The Vandellas appear in concert June 5-7 at Ollie's Radclyffe Hall, 4130 Telegraph in Oakland. Friday and Saturday there is a dinner show at 7pm with a second show at 11. Sunday show is at 8pm only. Tickets are $5 in advance and $7 at the door.

Also at Ollie's: Tuesday, June 2, will be talent auditions for Bay Area Entertainers Talent Contest. For additional information phone 586-4585. Pac Man Tournaments will be held that same night as will Ollie's Float Meeting at 8pm. Wednesday, June 3, at 7 and 9pm the San Francisco Gay Film Festival presents Jan Oxenberg's A COMEDY IN SIX UNNATURAL ACTS; tickets $3. Thursday, June 4, from 7:30 to 9pm will be a Women Veterans Rap Group Meeting with Pat Bond as guest host.

. For further information about Ollie's calendar, contact Ollie at 653-6017 or Belle Elizabeth at 653-6048.

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participants. Wear your muumuus and Aloha shirts, grass skirts . . . don't forget your cameras!

BENCH & BAR BRIEFS

This lively spot on 11th St. is in the process of installing a new sound system, and should be completed within the next week, if not already. I'm told that the testing proves an excellent sound . . . so good, in fact, that they will put in a new light show in the very near future. They still feature DISCO Tuesday through Sunday evenings.

On Memorial Day weekend they will have a "Beach Party Dance Contest" on Sunday, May 24, starting at 7pm. The costume is, of course, swimsuits, so arrive right from the beaches and backyards and show off your tan line(s)! There will be a grand prize of $100!!!

The B&B will be sponsoring a tricycle team in the Mint Tricycle Race on Memorial Monday, May 25. They have one team training right now, peddling their stuff around Lake Merritt (Lake Merritt??? That's what I saw the other 2am! Honey . . . they may have been pumping, but they sure weren't peddling!). They would like to have another team, so if any of you are interested, contact Michael at the B&B.

Jim tells me that every Saturday and Sunday during the summer they will be having an afternoon barbecue (I still can't understand why so many want to spell it bar-beque?????) from 4 to 7pm. It should be the perfect ending to a nice hot day on the beach!

Kudos are given to Michael Spears for the tedious task of having to keep his finger on the play button of a broken recorder. This happened throughout the entire show for Bobby's Mr. Gay Alameda kick-off party. I don't know when that was . . . all bars didn't get information on that event.

Don't forget to buy your "Hands Across the Bay" button to help finance Oakland's float in the Gay Parade.

Love to all (except to you know who) . . .

Nez ■

MCC East Bay To Celebrate 10th Ann'y

MCC East Bay, under the direction of Pastor Jeffrey Pulling, has announced its 10th anniversary, to be held June 6 and 7. The anniversary will include a picnic, beginning at noon, Saturday, June 6, at Oakland's Lake Temescal Regional Park, at the south tip of the lake. June 7th activities will be at the church, 4986 Fairfax Ave., Oakland. They will include a brunch starting at 1pm, till 3pm, (donation $3) followed by a workshop entitled "The Gifts of the Spirit."

Special services will be held at 6pm, with a guest pastor and special music performed by Lisa Crawford. For further information, please call Pastor Pulling at 533-4848.

Force Five Summer Auction & Fun Faire

The Force Five of Palo Alto — the social organization of the Peninsula dedicated to helping people — will hold its 4th Annual Summer Auction and Fun Faire June 7, Noon til 4pm, behind The Garden, 1960 University Ave. (Whiskey Gulch) Palo Alto. There will be food, music, games, cold beer, wine and soft drinks. The big event will be an auction, featuring items both new and used donated from around the community. There will also be a game of chance held during the day with all proceeds going to the Force Five Community Assistance Fund.

First Annual San Jose Community Picnic

Casa de San Jose will sponsor the first annual community picnic to be held in San Jose, at the Club Almaden, 21350 Almaden Road, Saturday, May 30, from Noon til 5pm. Admission will be $6, which will include a full BBQ lunch and admission to the grounds. Beer, wine and soft drinks will be available. For advance tickets, please write Casa de San Jose, Inc., Box 8287, San Jose, CA 95125.

O.L.G.R.O.

Oakland's Gay Rights Organization

by Gene Earl

O.L.G.R.O., the Oakland-based Gay rights organization, has been operating since 1979. The organization's ONE and only purpose is to get a Gay rights ordinance passed in Oakland. To accomplish this goal they are working towards increasing contact with the Oakland Gay and Lesbian community, developing support among Oakland's religious leaders, seeking AND keeping track of endorsements from political groups and public officials, gaining support of business and other groups, and keeping the straight and Gay press informed and aware of O.L.G.R.O.'s progress.

An excellent job has been done by the organization, led by Chairman Don Dinelli, in keeping track of the feelings and support of political leaders: U.S. Senator Alan Cranston, U.S. Representative (8th Dist.) Ron Dellums, and County Supervisor (4th Dist.) Joseph Bort, to name a few. O.L.G.R.O. has compiled a list of these and other pro and con votes that affect the Gay community.

O.L.G.R.O. has recieved **positive** endorsements for Gay rights legislation from community leaders such as Elijah Turner, Oakland Planning Commission, and Oakland School Board member Elizabeth Laurenson and U.S. and State political figures such as Congressman Ron Dellums, Congressman Pete Stark, State Senator Nick Petris and State Assemblyman Bill Lockyer.

O.L.G.R.O. needs two things from the Gay community it serves: members who are willing to work and contributions. The last benefit O.L.G.R.O. had, held at Ollie's, took in approximately $760; however, the cost of the food and renting Radclyffe Hall from Ollie's was $600, leaving a profit of $160, not even enough for paying postage and printing meeting notices. Join O.L.G.R.O.; they are working for you. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Mondays, 7:30pm at Ollie's, 4130 Telegraph, Oakland, or for more information call 547-5474. ■

The Trouble With The Queen Mother Of All California Title

by Gene Earl

Queen Mother of All California VIII, Blossum Sealey has requested from the board of Love & Care Inc., who owns the title, an extended leave of absence due to "health" reasons. Blossum is or was under the impression that he could "vacate" the title of Queen Mother of All California for four or six months and pick up where he left off when he gets back from Hawaii.

He has been granted a ONE month leave of absence, during which time Lady Garnet of Sacramento (runner-up in the Queen Mother contest) will become Regent Queen Mother VIII. If Blossum is not back in California in one month (June 5, 1981) the title will be given to Lady Garnet for the remainder of the title year.

Article #4 of the Application for Queen Mother/King Father states: "If the reigning Queen Mother/King Father should move from the State (California) the title will automatically be passed to the first runner-up." ■

Oakland Float in Gay Parade

Oakland will have a float in this year's Gay Day Parade, with the theme to be "Hands Across The Bay." Most Oakland bars are selling "Hands Across The Bay" buttons to raise funds for the project. The buttons are selling for $1.50, and donations are being accepted. For more information as to how you can help, how you can donate, or where you may get a button, contact A.C.I.E. Empress I, Suzie, or David through the Lake Lounge, 893-9454.

East Bay Gay Singers Sought

The Temescal Gay Men's Chorus, the newest musical organization in the East Bay area, will be auditioning new members through the end of June. Musical experience is preferred, but not required. Wanted are tenors, baritones, and basses. The Chorus is also seeking an accompanist for rehearsals and performances.

If interested please call Charles Baker, 654-0604, or Ben Janken, 845-1695 eves, for an audition.

A Chorus press release reports: "We are also in the process of beginning to expand our chorus into a first class professional organization serving the East Gay Gay community, in much the same way as does the San Francisco Chorus; we also hope to provide at some point many of the same musical activities and opportunities. Currently, we have 22 members; if our expansion program of the next six weeks works, we hope to make our chorus into a full-sized chorus of 50 to 60 members. We also hope to take on a full-time accompanist and find a larger and better rehearsal space."

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DISCO & TEE SHIRTS 9 2
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MR. MARCUS

Triumph in Chicago

SOUTHERN SCANDALS

For the second time, the powerful forces of San Francisco knocked the Windy City for a loop as Marty Kiker, sponsored by the BRIG of San Francisco, triumphantly walked the ramp at Chicago's PARK WEST to the thundering ovation of adoring thousands right after he was named International Mr. Leather 1981-82. Only moments before, Bill Shepherd, sponsored by the Los Angeles STUD, was named the 1st runner-up and the stunningly good-looking Boyd Turner of San Francisco and sponsored by HARDWARE was named 2nd runner-up. The packed house gave its obvious approval of the judges' choices. It was a momentous California sweep of the prizes, including a new motorcycle, that were offered to contestants from throughout the U.S., Canada and Australia. The PARK WEST, situated a few hundred yards from Lake Michigan, was standing room only and hundreds of people were stranded outside due to lack of space in the ornate showroom. Outside, the forces of Mother Nature whipped up a tremendous rain and wind storm as though in celebration of the magnificent triumph inside.

The MC's, Herb and Potatoes (formerly of GOTHAM) quipped their way through the festivities with timely barbs aimed at the great and near-great (*i.e.* Billy Jean King's husband lisps too much - Is Ronnie Reagan really one of the best dressed with 4 bullet holes in his suit?) as 36 contestants and the Male Hide Leathers fashion show pranced across the stage in the most beautifully fashioned leather gear ever to grace the stage of one auditorium. Needless to say, most of the SF contestants were adorned in the startling leather creations of TJ Leathers of San Francisco and were instrumental in forming the judges' opinions of what a leatherman should look like.

Folsom Fantasies, assisted by the generosity of several South of Market bars, started the weekend festivities with a SAN FRANCISCO IN CHICAGO cocktail party at the GOLD COAST on Friday, each San Franciscan in attendance wearing a T-Shirt with the FF logo; on Sunday afternoon, the ever-delightful Chuck Rodocker hosted a 4-hour orgy of booze, food and extracurricular activities at his newly-remodeled and enlarged TOUCHE bar, followed by the infamous Black & Blue Ball at MAN'S COUNTRY with a myriad of fatigued-but-fired-up participants and another cocktail party at the GOLD COAST earlier that stormy Sunday afternoon. Those persons who bought the $25 package deal for the event got more than they bargained for, with discounts, free drinks, and reduced prices at many, many Chicago business places and bars. Congratulations of the greatest magnitude are in order for Chuck Renslow and his contest coordinator, Jim Dohr, for putting on another spectacular in leather.

★ ★ ★

South of Market was ablaze with activity last week, what with the SF-Eagle's grand opening 3-day festivities and the opening of the STABLES on Folsom. At the Eagle, Jack Modica, owner of the NY-Eagle was on hand along with Don Bruce of the DC-Eagle and his head bartender George Wandless. Mr. Leather of Australia, Ron Moore, was in attendance as was Boyd Turner, the 2nd runner-up in Chicago, and Ray Perea, Mr. Drummer I. Most of the around-town businesses donated choice prizes for the raffle and Thor Stockman was the lucky guy to win the $500 in custom-made leather from TJ Leathers. Bob Koelzow and David Morris each won a 1-year supply of HARDWARE and numerous other prizes of Schnapps quarts and memberships to the Boot Camp Club and the Caldron were snapped up with gusto.

There was an overflowing crowd at the STABLES on Thursday night with an impromptu disc jockey pumping out disco sounds and a parade of food for the hungrier dudes. J&D Inc. will operate the restaurant after the 15th. You know Justin & Don, who operate CANARY ISLAND behind that other bar on Harrison. Following the week-long festivities in Chicago and the Folsom Eagle and Stables parties, it's all I could do to get back to work on Monday.

★ ★ ★

SPECIFIC TELL & TELL...

I'm thankful to a few of the Gay curators at the De Young for this scoop: Pope John Paul II was scheduled to visit San Francisco for the opening of the Vatican Treasures show next year until the assassination attempt last week, an item not even Herbetta knew about . . . Lee Machado of the PUMP ROOM was in Chicago too, but missed most of the post-contest activities due to his involvement with two very hunky dudes from Detroit; so adroit was their manipulation of La Machado, he went on to Detroit with them, and has the distinction of being the first to leave SFO for Chicago and the last to return! Harrumph! Are you reading this, Mike & John of Detroit? . . . Button seen on Randy Johnson at the POLK GULCH SALOON: "I'M A PART OF THE ORAL MAJORITY" raising the question as to whether Randy is seeking a Golden Dildeaux Award as Cocksucker of the Year?! . . . Sign seen at the Chicago Zoo by Kim Olson (fresh from being ejected by Diana Ross at Lake Tahoe for sniffing poppers): "Children, if you lose your parents, please report to the Lion House" . . . And Mike Frawley of the Pendulum ordered Mama Billy to stop playing the tambourine behind the bar because "tambourines are outmoded;" Mama Billy was reportedly seeking a violin teacher for his next act. I should mention that hundreds gathered at the Pendulum for Peter King's 65th birthday while yet another contingent applauded Wally Dennis falling off the wagon (Vodka rocks with a splash of 7-UP). They served watermelon and tulips for Peter's party, and Mike Frawley and young Mike Hogue were seen sneaking around Church Street Station in the wee hours and wondering if Wes Jackson and Wally were doing the same at the Jaguar . . . The indefatiguable CHARLIE at the Midnight Sun (soon to move to 18th Street) was overheard asking: "What do they call a Mexican dude with a vasectomy?" to which Linda of the BALCONY snapped: "A dry Martinez?" . . . **Onward!** . . . J. Brian (Man's Country, 7 In A Barn, etc.) just completed filming his latest and greatest (HIS words) film to be entitled FLASHBACKS, an erotic expose of the jockey shorts dance contests at the END UP with Randy Johnson hogging the camera and several erotic scenes guaranteed to make stars out of the dudes in question. Expect to see it in late Fall 1981 . . . Ad seen in the *Chicago Gay Life* mag: "Bisexual quadraplegic seeks big-breasted man or woman for wild sex. No freaks, please. Call (312) 921-2233"

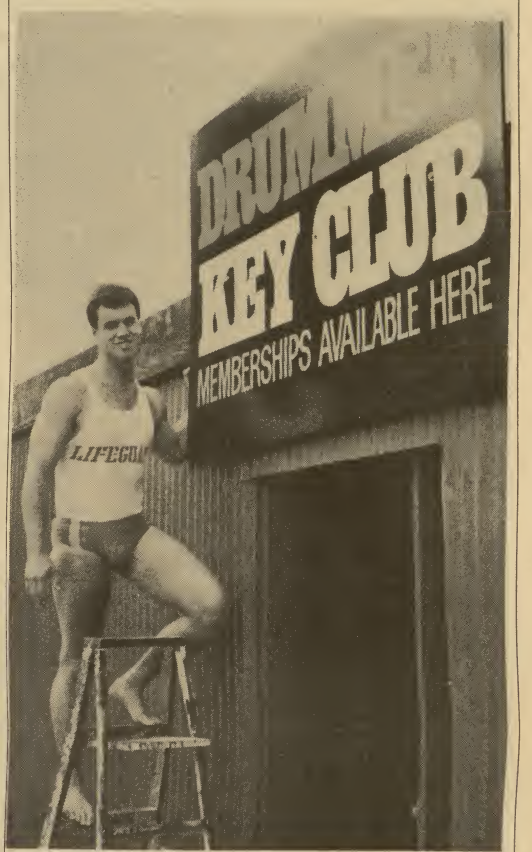
★ ★ ★

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE...

Yes, that WAS Armistead Maupin (Tales of the City) in leather at MAXWELL'S PLUM, the new Straight (?) NY-type bistro at Queeradelli Sq., and sitting right next to

(Continued on next page)

SKINNY-DIP SEASON STARTS SOUTH OF MARKET



The DRUMMER KEY CLUB, possessing one of the two commercial outdoor swimming pools in San Francisco, begins its season as a Leather Fraternity lifeguard puts up the sign at the front entrance.

The club's pool, which is open from 10AM daily, is part of the DRUMMER COMPOUND, which includes the DRUMMASTER BAR, DRUMMER KEY CLUB, STUDSTORE Leather Shop, SWEENEY TODD'S Barber Shop, SPEED-QUEENS-OF-FOLSOM Laundromat all included in the complex at Eleventh and Folsom. (Photo by Terry)

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SWEETLIPS SEZ

DICK WALTERS

Grand Opening on June 1 of Emperor Norton's Folly (formerly the Yacht Club) at 2155 Polk Street. Your hosts Rome, Robbie, Bob and Bill with the congenial Chris Granger, so don't miss this Grand Opening as it promises to be full of many, many sunrises.

Yes, Wayland Flowers and Madame at the Boarding House last week was out of sight . . . a great, great bit of entertainment at its best . . . so remember that when they do return you do not miss this madcap merriment. Hope you liked the white roses, Madame.

May 26 is the next meeting of the Tavern Guild at the ever-popular Ginger's Bar at 100 Eddy Street.

Tim McCarthy, the genial Juillard Alpa salesman . . . a nice guy to do business with.

"Mama" Noona's (Jay's mom) is 81 years young on Monday the 25th . . . "Happy Birthday, Bessie!"



Mr. Dolly — entertainer at Bubbles' champagne blast. "Everybody tries to look like me. . ." says Sweet Lips. (Photo by Rink)

Cafe San Marcos on outer Market Street, a great place to have lunch and cocktails . . . have you been to their upstairs bar . . . out of sight . . . right, Jack?

Steve's Flower Mart at 1348 Bush Street for great cut flowers and plants . . . Hi, Mason and Steve.

Mark is now the manager of 501's and has Larry Belle on the plank evenings . . . don't you miss not being a disco man, Larry Belle . . . also heard that Harry Gardner is back there.

Chester, you are younger than Jay, aren't you . . . Happy Birthday!

The Kokpit . . . 301 Turk Street . . . is having its 12th Anniversary Party on Wednesday, May 27, from Noon on . . . so drop on down and help them celebrate this great event and knowing the staff there it will be a blast. My, my, 12 years; how time does fly. . .

Don't forget the Tricycle Race on Monday, Memorial Day . . . this should be a great year for this unforgettable event . . . Incidentally, "Polk Street Sally" aka Dixon is now known as "Safeway Sally" and is behind the plank at the ever-popular Mint. So drop by for some libations from this popular person.

Yes, there is still time to get on Googie's Reno bus trip on June 20, so hurry on down and sign up with George Kelly . . . only $50 for the trip, including a $10 refund and overnight hotel room and food and drinks both ways on the bus.

Yes, Craig Daley is still at Sutter's Mill and doing a great job serving the excellent lunches that they have. The Mill is still a popular cocktail bar to go to.

Hope everyone has a great Memorial Day weekend and will see you all at the Kokpit's 12th Anniversary Party . . . Sweet Lips lives again??????

MR. MARCUS (Continued)

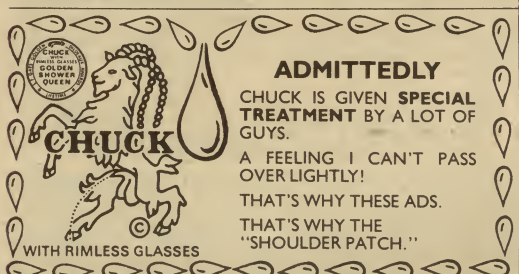
Mervyn Leroy under a $3 Million Baccarat chandelier — is this a new candidate for Empress? . .
Brown's Pub on Folsom is now serving Brunch on Saturdays and Sundays and featuring home-made Quiche . . .

Conceptual Entertainment's biggie is this Sat. night at the Galleria (Summer in the City) with Sharon Redd and Debbie Jacobs in person IF there're any tickets left . . . Jim Houseley's paintings and drawings are on display at BLACK SUN GALLERY (317 Hyde) 'til May 31 . . . Hot new western collar points available from OPTIONS PLUS, Box 14303, SF 94114 at $8 a pair or two pair for $15 — you'll look sharp with these on your shirts . . . CMC 4th of July Run scheduled for July 2-5 and the San Franciscans M/C stage a picnic in GG Park on Sat., June 27, with the Oedipus M/C of L.A. Grecian Games scheduled for Memorial Day weekend too at Camp Kessab near Palmdale . . . Big doings at DREAMLAND this weekend beginning tomorrow night (May 22) and on Sat., the $20 Admission includes ALL your cocktails — Hi, Jim Devore! . . . Next weekend, the BARBARY COASTERS annual 1-day run (Scavenger Run) on Sunday begins with check-in time at 10AM from FEBE'S and ending at DRUMMER CLUB with an Esther Williams Bathing Beauty Contest for only $5 (mucho fun) — It'll cost you $6 at the door . . . The 5th Annual Gay Film Festival is set for June 22 thru 27 at the Castro and Roxie so get your tickets now by writing to Frameline, Box 1983, SF, CA 94101.

★ ★ ★

That's winding it up for this issue. I'd like to thank my publisher, Bob Ross, for the two $50 donations at the SF-Eagle Grand Opening. One person in attendance got a $50 bill; the other bill was not claimed and so went to the SF Mixed Gay Men & Lesbian Chorus as a donation from the SF-Eagle. Right on! ■

MISTER MARCUS



ADMITTEDLY

CHUCK IS GIVEN **SPECIAL TREATMENT** BY A LOT OF GUYS.

A FEELING I CAN'T PASS OVER LIGHTLY!

THAT'S WHY THESE ADS.

THAT'S WHY THE "SHOULDER PATCH."

The Surgeon General May Be Dangerous To Your Health

Testimony by Dr. Walter J. Lear before the House Subcommittee on Health in Washington, D.C., strongly criticized President Reagan's choice for the position of Surgeon General: Dr. C. Everett Koop. Koop is notorious for his anti-Gay sentiments and his opposition to Gay movement demands as one of many "anti-family trends in our society." As Surgeon General, Koop would be in a position to affect health treatment for Gay people offered by government programs and services.

Lear, who is Commisioner of Health Services for the metropolitan Philadelphia area of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and Public Welfare, spoke on behalf of the National Gay Health Coalition when he appeared before members of Congress on April 3. "Dr. Koop appears to have strongly-held beliefs about homosexuality which are not supported by established medical science, practice or ethics," he stated. "We are concerned that the unfounded beliefs of the nation's highest health officer could result in less than equitable treatment for (Gay male, Lesbian and bisexual) taxpaying citizens by government and government-funded health programs and services. We are concerned that such unscientific and unethical leadership would exacerbate existing discrimination and abuse of sexual minorities by health practitioners and services throughout the country."

According to Gay Rights National Lobby's Steve Endean, the Surgeon General also plays a key role on the issue of government's continued ban against Gays immigrating to the U.S.

The Washington Post reported that Dr. Lear challenged members of Congress to consider if Dr. Koop will (a) implement his beliefs by dispatching government psychiatrists to examine entering aliens for suspected homosexuality, (b) revive the McCarthy witchhunts against government health workers who don't conform to his personal beliefs about proper sexual behavior and (c) deny the justice of the clinical service, professional education and medical research which are responsive to the special health needs of the nation's sexual minorities and essential for the improvement of their health status.

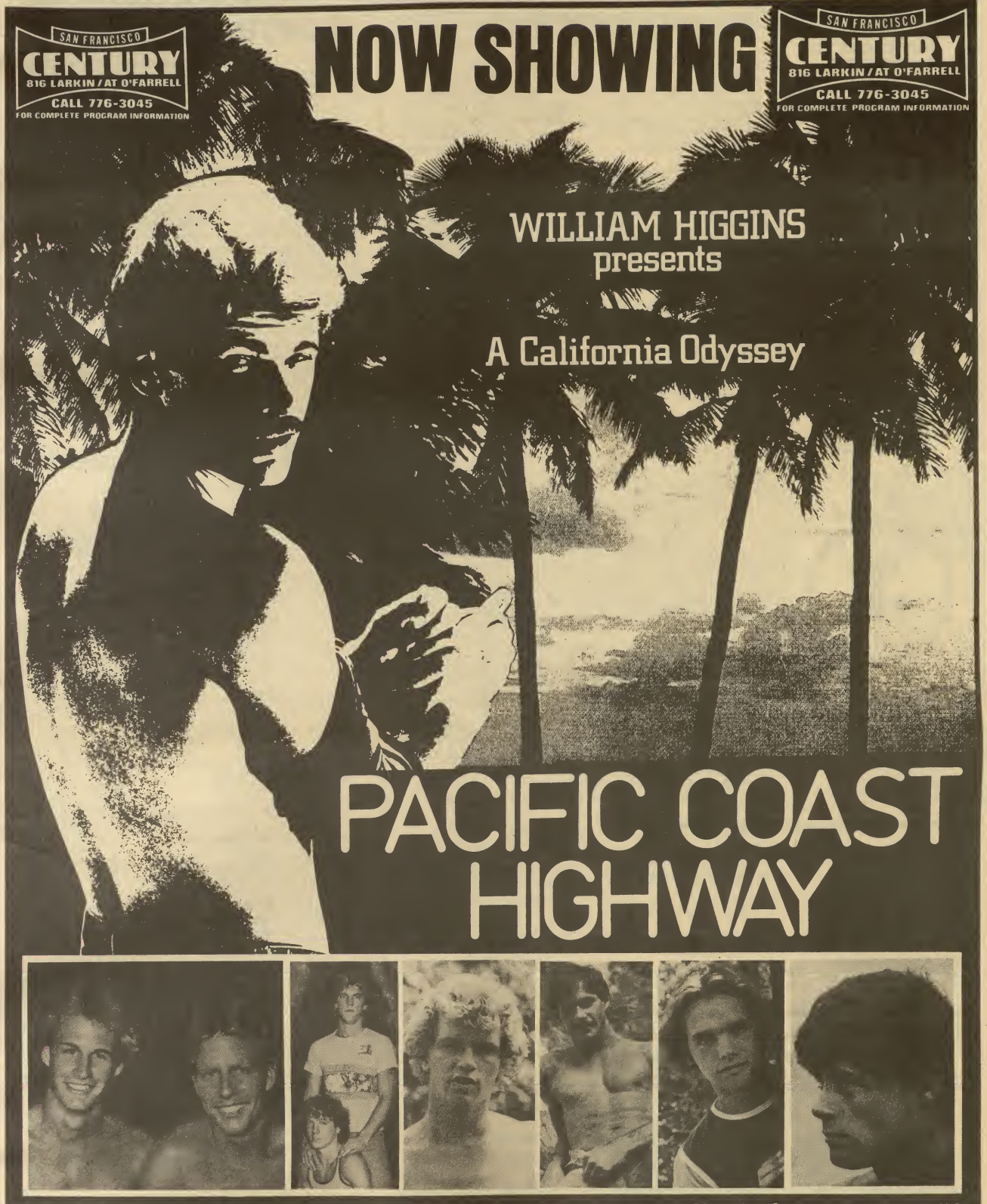
"We expect that our personal sexual orientation will not become grounds for discrimination or abuse by government services, programs, or officials, and that our government will function in full accord with the great traditions of our democratic republic — including the separation of church and state and respect for each human being as an equally entitled member of society," Lear told the subcommittee. "I urge you to ensure the health, welfare and rights of the nation's sexual minorities — the approximately 10 to 30% of the population who are Gay."



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APPLIED ANATOMY

A faggot flat chested
Is seldom molested.

— by Woolly

SPORTS

Great Tricycle Race

MARK BROWN

This Monday, May 25, The Mint Bar & Restaurant on Market Street will hold its tenth annual Memorial Day Charity Costume Great Tricycle Race and Dance.

The official race route starts at the Civic Center at 2pm with 29 official pit stops along the way. The route moves along Polk Street, into the heart of the Tenderloin, up Market Street, through the Castro and back down Market to the finish line at The Mint.

Last year's winners, Marty Orlando and Mark Farris (Gilmore's entry) will be back to try and repeat their victory with a new tricycle. Tom Turner is chairman in charge of the event with this year's charity being the San Francisco S.P.C.A. First prize is $500.

MILWAUKEE CLASSIC

The 527 Club, in the Gay Softball League, will fly to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this Friday night to play in the Memorial Weekend Milwaukee Classic. This will be the first team from the West Coast to ever participate in this annual event.

The 527 Club will play three games on Saturday. If victorious they will move into Sunday's final round of competition. Art Jackson is the manager. The group plans to arrive back in San Francisco Monday evening.

GAY SOFTBALL LEAGUE

As the G.S.L. has reached the half-way point of the regular season play, the 527 Club has taken over the lead in the Barbary Coast Division with seven straight victories, after losing their first two games. On The Mark still leads the Golden Gate Division, but dropped from the undefeated ranks after being upset by the Phone Booth.

The G.S.L. will not play this Memorial weekend. League action will resume Sunday, May 31.



It's 6:30 am, and just above Castro Street and Market they're lining up to open the highly popular and successful City Athletic Club for a morning workout. Those Castro torsos were not all made in heaven. (Photo by Rink)

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Barbary Coast Division

527 Club	7-2
Wreck Room	6-2
White Swallow	5-3
End-Up	4-3
Gilmore's	4-4
Cafe San Marcos	0-7

Golden Gate Division

On The Mark	7-1
Ambush	6-2
Phone Booth	4-4
Moby Dick	2-5
Tara Travel	1-7
Urban Country	0-7

G.S.L. SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 31
Balboa Fields #1 & #2

9:00 AM
On The Mark *v.* Tara Travel
Cafe San Marcos *v.* 527 Club

10:45 AM
End-Up *v.* On The Mark
Phone Booth *v.* 527 Club

12:30 PM
White Swallow *v.* End-Up
Phone Booth *v.* Urban Country

2:00 PM
Wreck Room *v.* Ambush
Moby Dick *v.* Gilmore's

3:45 PM
Moby Dick *v.* Ambush

SCORES

Wreck Room	23
Cafe San Marcos	12
End-Up	17
Gilmore's	5
Wreck Room	26
Phone Booth	12
Gilmore's	22
Tara Travel	9
Phone Booth	11
Moby Dick	10
Ambush	27
Tara Travel	0
527 Club	26
Urban Country	3
On The Mark	9
White Swallow	3
527 Club	17
White Swallow	3
On The Mark	12
Urban Country	3

COMMUNITY SOFTBALL LEAGUE

by Rodger Soto

"The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated."
— Mark Twain, 1897

The 1981 season of the Community Softball League, going into its ninth season, contrary to reports of its death and demise is still alive and well. The season began on Easter Sunday with one of the best defensive softball games in CSL history. The Cinch defeated The Village 4-0 in the first defeat and shutout for The Village in two years. The reason for the above quote by Mark Twain is that for four years the death and the demise of the CSL has been predicted by various individuals who seem to have a death wish for the league only because we do not ask players if they are Gay, straight or bi. The CSL has progressed into one of the finest leagues in the city of San Francisco.

In last fall's city league out of over 600 teams, members of the CSL won both the BB & B divisions, the top two divisions in the city. The CSL also entered the first George Moscone Tournament and came out second out of the best independent leagues in the city. The point is we are a group of individuals playing softball together, enjoying each other's company in our Gay sponsored bars after the games and represent a good mix of people who get along well. There is no reason why two leagues cannot both exist with different philosophies and still be good for the Gay community.

C.S.L. Scoreboard

(Week ending May 10)

Fifth Street Bar & Grill	10
Bunkhouse	1
Cinch	17
Rainbow Cattle Co.	9
Rainbow Cattle Co.	8
Stallion	3
Stallion	5
Nap's Peacock	1
Village	10
Mint	3
Mint	12
Endup	2
Wreck Room	9
Village	8
Castro Cafe	14
Sutter's Mill	3

STANDINGS

Fifth Street B&G	**5-0**
Cinch	**5-1**
Rainbow Cattle Co.	**5-1**
Castro Cafe	**3-1**
Stallion	**3-2**
Village	**4-3**
Nap's Peacock	**2-2**
Wreck Room	**2-3**
Mint	**2-4**
Endup	**0-3**
Sutter's Mill	**0-5**
Bunkhouse	**0-5**

Games for May 31 at Lange Field

10:30 AM	Castro Cafe @ Village Wreck Room @ Cinch
12:00 PM	Cinch @ Sutter's Mill Bunkhouse @ Wreck Rm.
1:30 PM	Nap's Peacock @ Rainbow End-Up @ 5th Street
3:00 PM	Fifth Street @ Nap's Stallion @ Mint

No Games Played on May 24. ■

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Penncrest 7-cycle dshwshr with chpng blk top; very gd cond. $100. 552-5032. E12

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May 21 Rally

A hastily-formed coalition of Gay political groups including Solidarity, the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade Committee, and Stonewall, Alice B. Toklas and Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Clubs have organized a rally on City Hall steps Thursday evening, featuring a number of speakers and entertainment to commemorate the 1979 resistance to the Dan White verdict.

Demands of the rally include: dropping the charges on the May 21 defendants, investigating and punishing police involved in Elephant Walk assault, calling for the formation of an independent and elected Civilian Police Review Board, full representation of Lesbians and Gays in all of city government, and stopping police harassment of Gays and Gay establishments and all other minorities.

The Parade Committee has declared the date the beginning of Lesbian/Gay History Month, ending June 28 (the day of the parade).

People invited to speak at the rally include: Alice President Connie O'Connor, Milk President Gwenn Craig, Parade co-chair Greg Day, Solidarity representative Claude Wynne, May 21 veteran Amber Hollinbaugh, Black community leader and principal Yvonne Golden, a Latino youth, ex-police chief Charles Gain, and a representative for the May 21 defendants. Who will actually speak remains to be seen.

Queen of the Rolling Rails

Philadelphia Gay News hit on one of those hypersensitive minorities within a minority in one of their recent issues. *Gay News'* revelation that many Gay men are railroad fans was peachy-keen except that they left out the address of the secret society. The Phoebe Snow Society (named after a train made famous by an advertising campaign which featured a demure traveler also named Phoebe Snow whose virginal-white dress was never dirtied by cinders because the railroad's engines burned a cleaner coal) is headquartered at P.O. Box 1068, Albany, New York 12201. Membership is $10, and a sponsor from within the club is required.

The Phoebe Snow ads read, "My gown stays white from morn till night. For I ride the Road of Anthracite." *Gay News* reported that a gentleman at the Barracks had revealed the corporate logos or heralds of at least 35 different railroads tattooed on his body. So for those of you who thought you were "the only one," rest assured, there are plenty of Gay rail fans out there dying to get together and stoke a few coals. So warm up your poker and find out what Amtrak doesn't offer in their brochures.

Gay Parade Picnic

The largest picnic of its kind, the Annual Freedom Weekend Picnic In The Park will be held Saturday, June 27, Noon to 4pm, at the east end of Lindley Meadow, Golden Gate Park.

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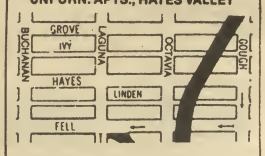
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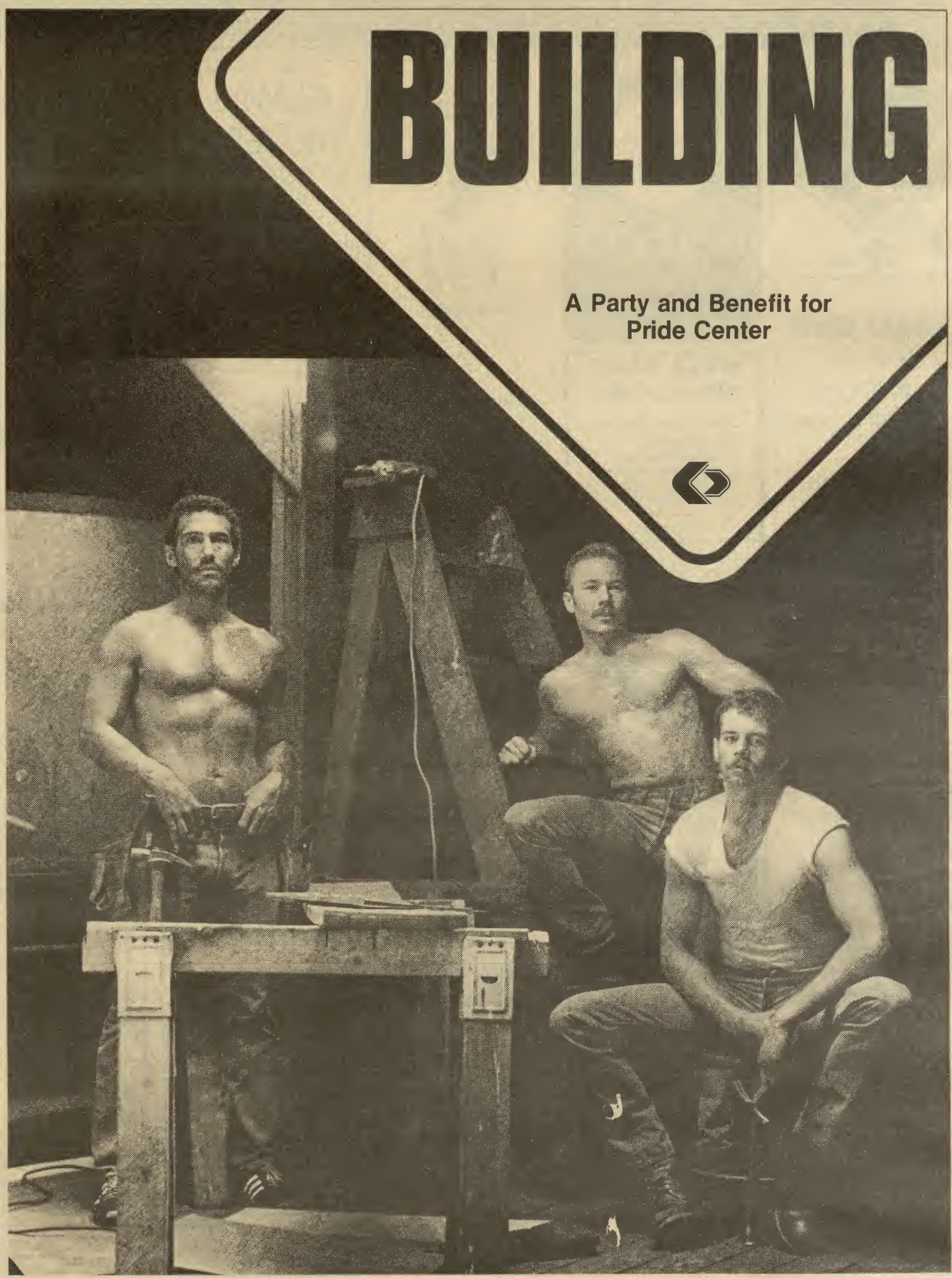
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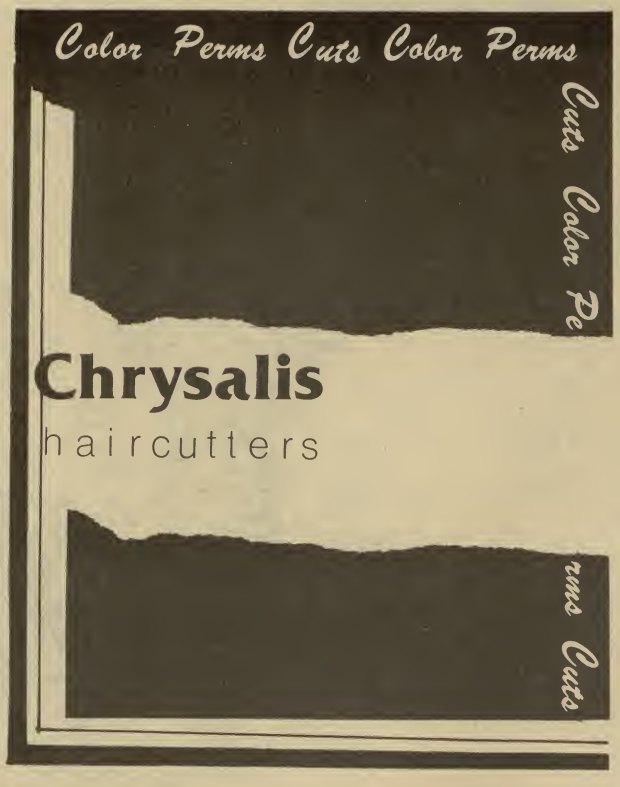
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Daniel Nicoletta

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Why we remember

By Gwenn Craig
President



Gwenn Craig

Rink

In a newspaper article summing up the politics of the seventies, lesbian writer Jill Johnston remarked that during that decade, "San Francisco went homosexual." Hyperbole aside, the last 10 years have seen a wave of gay and lesbian immigration sweep over San Francisco as thousands of us arrived from the many homophobic towns across America.

Among these new immigrants was Harvey Milk. Moving here in 1972, he in many ways personified the newcomers: at ease with his homosexuality, spending his first months here enjoying the city's unique freedoms. But Harvey knew that thousands of homosexuals still suffered from centuries of long-held prejudice. Unwilling to wait for that distant day when the bigots would abandon their hatreds, Harvey devoted himself to the struggle for lesbian and gay rights. After his entry, gay politics would never be the same.

Starting in 1973, Harvey mounted campaign after unsuccessful campaign for elective office, until he finally scored a victory the fourth time around in his 1977 supervisorial race. In each election he brought an unabashedly gay perspective to our city's politics. "Gay vote Gay" was an early slogan. His message was full of the lessons learned from Stonewall: lesbians and gay men had to reject the politics of gradualism if they were to take control of their own lives. "You're not given power," he repeatedly told us, "you have to take it."

Today, the organization he helped found in 1976 bears his name and remains committed to his special brand of politics. Though Harvey Milk is dead, his politics live on.

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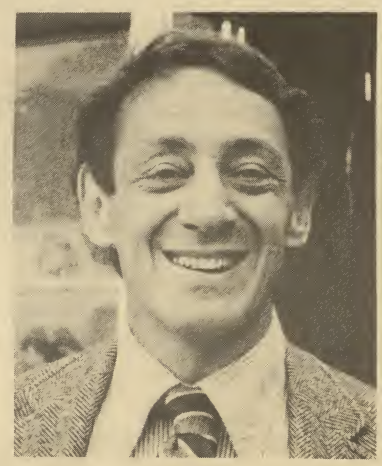
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I join with you in paying well deserved tribute to the memory of Harvey Milk. It is fitting, on this occasion, to rededicate ourselves to the cause of human dignity, the cause of gay/lesbian rights and to the cause of social justice for all in our society. I am proud to join with the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club and with all who heed the words of Tennyson: "Come, my friends, it is not too late to seek a better world".

Congressman Phillip Burton

Who was Harvey Milk?

By Jim Rivaldo

"They're not paying me enough to come up with all the answers, but you can be damned sure they'll get more than their money's worth in questions."
— Supervisor Harvey Milk

Harvey Milk was fearless. He never hesitated to challenge the established order or popular assumptions. He never waited for someone else to give him a green light. He never waited until the time was "right." He was brash, he was pushy, he stepped on toes, he made enemies.

How did he get away with it? Because usually he was right.

Harvey had a special knack for focusing on the essence of an issue and communicating what he saw in the most direct, common-sense terms that everyone from construction workers to drag queens could understand and appreciate.

He trusted his instincts and wasn't afraid to toss out a half-baked idea or ask an off-the-wall question, knowing full well that progress — new solutions to old problems — can come only through a free exchange of ideas that ignores the barriers and constraints of the status quo.

When his pooper scooper law wasn't working as he had hoped, he made the obvious, but nonetheless novel observation that dog litter is nothing more than processed dog food, and that the dog food manufacturers, retailers and others who profit from dog food had a direct responsibility to help solve the problem. Harvey left this solution for others to explore.

Harvey understood clearly that the process of coming out gay usually required challenging and rejecting the most firmly-held beliefs of one's family, church, teachers, peers, the government, the medical profession, historians, filmmakers, the news media — everyone who matters to a gay person.

Coming out can be painful, but the courage it demands can turn pain to strength. Once someone has challenged society's fundamental assumptions regarding sexuality, and has overcome the taboos regarding how and to whom she/he may express love and affection, then challenges to other forms of injustice should come more easily and naturally.

Harvey Milk's most fervent exhortation was that lesbians and gay men everywhere should come out, proudly and confidently, and claim their rightful place as full participants in the life of their communities. Harvey knew that men and women unafraid to assert their worth and establish new human relationships in a hostile society could play vital roles in ending sexism, racism, classism and other impediments to freedom.

Harvey saw lesbians and gay men as a great resource to society, not just for their talents and skills, but as a model for liberating all people whose creativity is stifled by the dictates of conventional behavior. Harvey encouraged gay people to get involved, not just to get a piece of the existing action, but to create new forms of action and end the plodding predictability that has made government, large corporations and other institutions unresponsive to the changing needs of people.

Harvey loved the theater, opera, dance, and his appreciation for the world of fantasy, illusion and symbolism, nurtured through his experiences as a theatrical producer and actor, served him well in the political arena. He understood well that the substance of governing — the budgets, the legislation, the administrative procedures — provide only a sterile framework. The life, humanity and power of government derive from its ability to inspire, motivate and challenge people to achieve.

Harvey knew how to attract attention to himself and the issues he thought were important, not as a means of inflating his ego, but as the first step in exercising leadership. He knew when to be outrageous. He knew when to be outraged. He knew how to manipulate the dramatic possibilities in any situation. He did so with wit, with humor, and with a boundless, infectious enthusiasm. You knew whether he loved or hated something, and you always knew why. You always knew whether he was on your side, and when he wasn't, you could expect a good, strong fight. Ask John Briggs.



Delores Neuman

Harvey Milk, the self-described "street queen," has become a legend and an inspiration to lesbians and gay men throughout the world. The magnitude of his importance to gay people, especially in San Francisco, often obscures the fact that he was with us so briefly. Gay people, including Harvey, suffered oppression and discrimination here in San Francisco that is inconceivable today. Only six years ago, in his 1975 campaign for Supervisor, did Harvey Milk begin to achieve citywide prominence. Only 5 years ago was Harvey Milk appointed as the first openly gay commissioner, to the Board of Permit Appeals. Only 3 years ago did Harvey Milk take office as the Supervisor from District 5. And he served as Supervisor for less than a year.

The rise of Harvey Milk coincided not just with the rise of gay political power, but also of neighborhood power. As Harvey Milk worked to build the political consciousness and participation of San Francisco's gay community, he also became the most articulate and forceful advocate for the powerful potentials of neighborhood activism. Harvey organized his neighborhood around crime and police harassment issues. He helped to plan the Upper Market Street improvements. He organized the Castro merchants. He fought for better libraries, to keep his neighborhood school from closing, to stop a hospital from swallowing its neighborhood, for youth programs in the Mission, against highrises and parking garages, for the rights of city workers.

Harvey's campaigns asserted loud and clear that San Francisco no longer could afford to have policy decisions dictated by the Chamber of Commerce and the boardrooms of downtown corporations; by the Chronicle/Examiner/Progress and their political allies. San Francisco belongs to the people who live here, not to the multinational real estate conglomerates and not to people who retreat to their suburban enclaves each night.

The people who had run San Francisco for generations were insensitive to neighborhood issues, to the emerging Third World majority of San Francisco's population, and certainly toward the concerns of the lesbians and gay men whom they openly scorned. At candidates' nights, in press interviews and in his columns in B.A.R., Harvey called for a powerful new coalition of people who live in San Francisco's neighborhoods, who ride Muni to work, who spend Sundays in the parks, who depend on San Francisco General Hospital when they're sick, who send their children to the libraries to do their homework, who depend on Senior Centers, childcare centers and neighborhood police beat patrols. These are the people Harvey wanted to run San Francisco, and these are the people who joined with the overwhelming majority of gay people to elect Harvey to office.

San Francisco's gay community has come a long way with and since Harvey Milk. The gay Democratic and Republican clubs form the backbones of traditional party structures and activism in the city. We have elected Harry Britt and Tim Wolfred citywide by working in the coalitions Harvey helped to establish. Openly gay people are becoming more visible at all levels of government, business, the arts, the professions, in neighborhoods. Statewide candidates for office seek our support. We've made a good start, and Harvey helped us make it.

Much has been written and said about Harvey, and the straight media loves to remind us that Harvey wasn't "just" a gay Supervisor, and that his being gay was subordinate to his concern for the elderly, the poor, renters, Muni riders, the environment.

Anyone who knew Harvey knew that being gay and achieving in the name of gay people was Harvey's greatest ambition. He wanted the world to know that everything he did was done by a faggot. He wanted every politician, every corporate executive and lobbyist, every police officer, every religious leader, every newspaper publisher, and likewise every child, senior citizen, manual laborer, teenager and gay person to know that when they worked with Harvey Milk, they were working with a faggot.

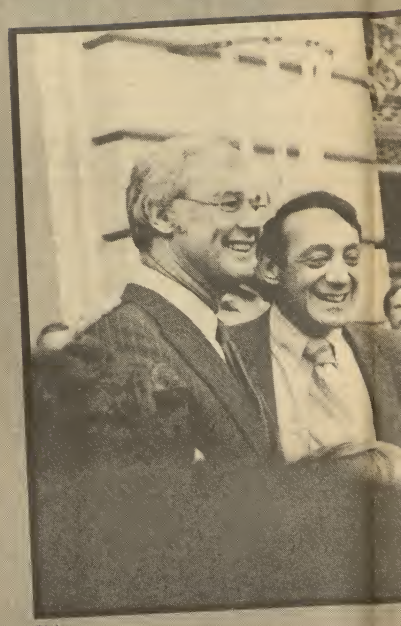
That's how Harvey wanted to shatter the myths, stereotypes and bigotry that not only have crippled so many worthy gay people, but have prevented ours from becoming a truly just society.

Harvey once said, "If I turned around every time someone called me a faggot, I'd be walking backwards. I'd never see where I was going, only where I'd been."

Harvey always looked ahead, and always knew where he was going. Harvey helped lead us closer to freedom. It's up to us now to travel the rest of the way.



Guy Corry



Rink

Harvey Milk: A photo retrospective

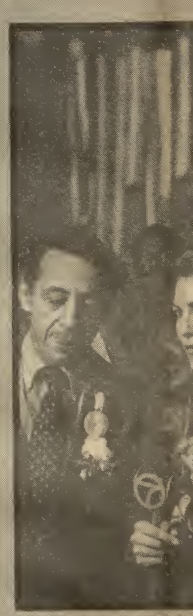
These photographs are part of a slide exhibition on Harvey's life which will be presented at the City Hall reception on Wednesday, May 20th from 6:00 to 8:00PM. The exhibition was produced by Guy Corry, Scott Smith and Crawford Barton.







Daniel Nicoletta





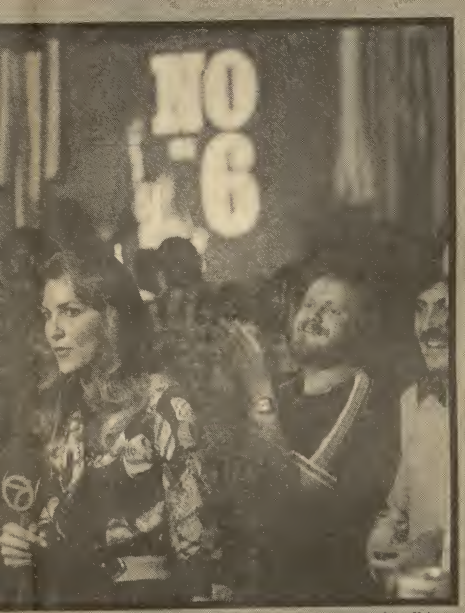


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Who we are: A brief history of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club

By Greg Gonzales and Bill Kraus

The Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club was founded as the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club in 1976.

The dozen charter members, including Harvey Milk, set about the job of organizing the lesbian/gay community to stand up forthrightly for our right to equal treatment and to political representation at all levels.

One main focus of the Club from its beginning has been to stress our pride as gay people and the knowledge that our power as a community grows from our numbers and our organization rather than from the disinterested benevolence of non-gay politicians.

The founding members also dedicated the Club to a progressive political vision that emphasized that gay people will be free only when society changes to provide social justice for all people.

The Club has grown with the growth of the gay movement in San Francisco. From its early months with a handful of members it has today become the largest political club in San Francisco with nearly 400 dues-paying members. Its spectacular growth in the last three years has made it a powerful voice in local politics. With the election last year of several of its members as delegates to the Democratic National Convention and Bill Kraus' appointment to the Democratic National Platform Committee, it has moved strongly into the arena of national politics as well.

Some highlights of our history:

Fall 1977 - Club members were prominent in the successful campaign to elect Harvey Milk supervisor in District 5.

Late 1977 - The first big gain in Club membership, resulting from our work in Harvey's campaign.

Spring 1978 - Club members led gay caucus efforts at The California Democratic Council convention to pressure Governor Brown to publicly support gay rights. This action is generally credited with inspiring Brown's subsequent strong support for our community.

Summer 1978 - Members led Gay Voter Registration Project at Gay Freedom Day and in the Fall to register voters against the Briggs Initiative.

Fall 1978 - Club members organized and staffed San Franciscans Against Proposition 6, which helped produce an overwhelming vote against the Briggs Initiative in San Francisco.

Fall 1978 - Club helped elect Harvey Milk as a delegate to the 1978 Mid-term Democratic Convention.

November 27, 1978 - Harvey Milk assassinated.

December 1978 - Club renamed the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club.

January 1979 - Club President, Harry Britt, named to the Board of Supervisors to succeed Harvey Milk.

Spring, Summer 1979 - Dramatic increase in Club membership as it emerged as an outspoken advocate for the lesbian/gay community at a time when the position of our community was widely perceived to be jeopardized by the absence of Mayor Moscone and by the Dan White trial and verdict.

May 22, 1979 - Club sponsored the Harvey Milk Birthday Party on Castro Street as a peaceful expression of the strength and solidarity of our community.

Summer 1979 - Club members marched with Ceasar Chavez to support the farmworkers in the lettuce strike.

November 27, 1979 - Club organized and sponsored the candlelight march and evening at City Hall commemorating George Moscone and Harvey Milk on the anniversary of their assassinations. 25,000 marched.

Cont'd on page 14









Photos by Rink

Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club Officers and Committees

President - Gwenn Craig
Is responsible for setting the general tone and establishing goals for the Club. Presides at general membership meetings and Executive Committee.

Vice President, Political Affairs - Ron Huberman
Deals with issues of political significance to the Gay and Lesbian Communities. In conjunction with the Political Action Committee makes recommendations to the membership.

Vice President, Internal Affairs - Terry King
Is responsible for fund raising and membership. Works closely with the President to insure smooth operation of the Club.

Treasurer - Keith Klegman
Keeps the Club's financial records and pays bills. Works with other members of the Executive Committee to plan fundraisers and maintain the financial stability of the Club.

Recording Secretary - Simone Fleming
Keeps records of the general membership and Executive Committee meetings.

Corresponding Secretary - Richard Sevilla
Is responsible for all written communications with outside agencies and officials. Sends letters and resolutions at the direction of the general membership and Executive Committee. Is also responsible for sending press releases and notice of meetings to various newspapers and radio stations.

Executive Committee - Gwenn Craig
Is composed of all of the elected officers of the Club and the heads of the committees. They conduct the day to day operation of the Club and develop policy to present to the Club and how to implement policy.

Political Action Committee - Ron Huberman
Addresses issues of political action and makes recommendations to the Club. It has a special interest in issues of immediate concern.

Membership Committee - Stafford Buckley
Does the clerical work surrounding membership as well as brings members to the Club and helps integrate them into Club activities.

Planning Committee - Gwenn Craig
Discusses issues and matters to develop the proposed agenda for general meetings.

Finance Committee - Keith Klegman
Develops strategy for the financial well being of the Club and creates fund raising activities.

Dinner Committee - Terry King
An annual series of events held in late May to commemorate Harvey Milk's birthday and fundraise.

Antiviolence Committee - Catherine Angell and Christopher Grubbs
Provides a forum for discussion of methods and organizations that work for the prevention of violence.

Gay Vote - Dick Pabich
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The Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Women's Building, 18th Street near Valencia.

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A brief history...

Cont'd from page 11

November, December 1979 - Club members distributed over 40,000 slate cards informing our community of our positions in the Fall elections. The Club was recognized as critical in the gay community's role in the two mayoral elections as well as the election of Supervisor Harry Britt.

February 1980 - Club organized the demonstration by hundreds of people at the Immigration Service headquarters against the exclusion of gay tourists.

April 1980 - Club organized a slate of lesbian, gay, minority and women candidates to run in the June 3rd election of the Democratic County Central Committee, which sets Party policy in San Francisco.

April 1980 - President Bill Kraus appointed as one of three gay members nationally to the Democratic National Platform Committee, which wrote the Party's platform to be adopted at the convention.

May 1980 - Club holds first Harvey Milk Birthday Party. More than 600 people attend the dinner in Golden Gate Park. Jane Fonda and Tom Hayden are the featured speakers. Over 5,000 persons attend the Street Fair the following Sunday.

May 1980 - Club members won six of top nine Kennedy delegate spots to the Democratic National Convention in local Kennedy caucuses.

July, August 1980 - We were the backbone in the Campaign against Proposition A (the repeal of district elections). After the campaign, the Club was acknowledged by a co-chair of the campaign as one of the strongest participating organizations.

October 1980 - Employing sophisticated demographic and computer tools the Club mails 30,000 slate cards to registered gay and lesbian voters in San Francisco. An additional 15,000 cards distributed in the community by Club members.

November 1980 - The Club's efforts boost Supervisor Harry Britt to his second election victory. The Club is also instrumental in the election of Tim Wolfred to the Community College Board.

November 1980 - Club sponsors the second Candlelight March in memory of Harvey Milk's assassination. In the face of opposition from the Mayor's Office and the Police Department, the Club takes to the streets and closes Market Street for over an hour as thousands of gays and lesbians march to City Hall for the ceremony.

April 1981 - Thirty Club members retreat to the Sierras to examine the structure of the Club and discuss an agenda for the future. A set of concrete plans emerge.

April 1981 - Club members meet with the Mayor and District Attorney to demand explanations for their lack of support of the needs of the gay and lesbian communities.

May 1981 - Club sponsors the second Harvey Milk Birthday Party. Events include a reception in the Rotunda at City Hall and a community party in Duboce Park.

During the four years the Club has been in existence, we have met regularly with political and social leaders, including the Mayor, our representatives in Congress and the State Legislature, the Governor and officials from the White House. Our position has always been to articulate the needs of the lesbian and gay communities and to make it clear to politicians that we stand prepared to support those who truly support us and to actively oppose those who show that they are not truly committed to our goals.

The People of The Haight
are having a
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for
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"Dear Darlene"



Dear Darlene:
I'm afraid that I may be gay. It started with a few late Sunday breakfasts, but before I knew it I was "brunching" every weekend. Saturday's too! You see I found this delightful place on 24th Street off Castro called MAGGIE'S. I kidded myself at first. I thought I went there to sit in the sun on their redwood deck or to sit by the fire on a cold foggy day. Eventually I had to face up to it—I went to Maggie's because I was hooked on brunch. Darlene, isn't that the first sign of homosexuality?

Bye Bye Bisexual

Dear Bye:
The latest research shows that brunch is not an exclusively homosexual practice. As you know, I am not a homosexual, and I brunch regularly at MAGGIE'S. If, however, excessive brunching worries you, may I suggest dinner at MAGGIE'S. After all, *everyone* dines, and the fireplace at MAGGIE'S is even more inviting at night. So whatever you may be, get over it, get into it, and I'll see you at Maggie's, 4138-24th Street off Castro, 285-4443.

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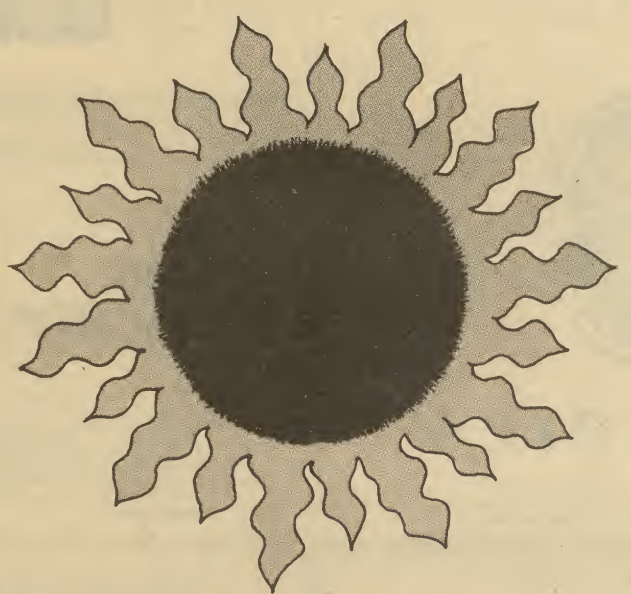


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